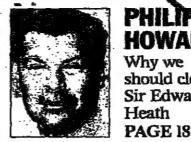
LYNNE TRUSS

PAGE 42



£40,000

One football fan gets hooked on Details of the softie how to play seats PAGE 31



HOWARD Why we should clone Sir Edward Heath



THE MCALPINE DIARIES

The most explosive political memoirs of the year IN TOMORROW'S WEEKEND

Sandra Parsons meets Alistair McAlpine

Labour abandons confidence vote

Ulster deal to protect Major until May 1

BY ARTHUR LEATHLEY, POLLY NEWTON AND NICHOLAS WATT

THE Ulster Unionists threw John Major the lifeline that should keep him in power until May I yesterday after the Government agreed to increase the powers of the special perhamentary committee that monitors Northern

The deal was announced by the Ulster Unionist leader, David Trimble, who made clear that he saw no point in trying to force an early election. He added that his personal preference was for a late

Labour cannot force the Government out of office without Universit backing, so it abandoned thoughts of staging a Commons confidence would merely give the Goverroment a chance to rally and

Wirral South by election. Donald Dewar, the Chief Whip, said: "I am sorry we cannot go ahead. I would like to have gone ahead, but there is no point in putting down a motion without the Ulster

Mr Trimble did not rule out Patrick's Day in America. voting against the Government when he announced the grand committee deal yesterday, but the tone of his remarks fitted in with his privately-held view that his party had nothing to gain by doing so. Senior Unionists believe that the next Government, of whatever hue, would distrust a minor party that was prepared to side with the Opposition on such a crucial

Mr Tripple was dismissive

Jury trial curbs

Michael Howard has proposed curbs on the right to trial by jury and other sub-stantial changes to the crimistantial changes to the crimi-nal justice system. Thousands of offenders, including burglars and some sex offenders, would be likely to receive lighter sentences Page 4

of the prospects of an early election. What is the point for a couple of weeks? If you have an early election, you would have Easter in the middle of the campaign. I can see arguments pro and con, possibly more con than pro. What is the point of them [Labour] putting a big effort in when all the difference is three weeks?" He was not even sure that Labour was in a position to get all its MPs to Westminster to a vote aimed at bringing down the

And he added that for "selfish; personal reasons" he would prefer a May I poll, as he was hoping to spend St

Government.

Unionists were delighted that ministers had met many of their demands for new powers for a Northern Ireland Grand Committee in line with those in Wales and Scotland: The powers, promised by

agreed after extensive consultation and Sir Patrick Mayhew, the Northern Ireland Secretary, has written to each of the party leaders in Northern Ireland setting out the details of the new-look

The Queen

committee. All Northern Ireland MPs and up to 24 other MPs will serve on the committee, which will be able to question ministers on Province spending commitments announced in the Budget, interrogate all ministers about Northern Ireland affairs, and stage some meetings in North-ern Ireland as well as Westminster. It will also be able to consider uncontentious legis-

lation affecting the Province. However, nationalists have objected to such powers being conferred on the committee, seeing it as part of an integra-

The Government's decision to beef up the committee came as ministers prepared to accede to Northern Ireland politicians' calls for the Stormont talks to be adjourned for the duration of the election campaign. The talks, which have failed to make any real progress since they opened last June, will be wound up next Wednesday until after the local government elections in Northern Ireland on May 21,

Mr Trimble said that other eovernment moves -- ranging from pressure on Brussels to lift the beef ban on specified BSE-free herds, to bringing the Province in line with the rest of the country on "derating" village shops - were

also important developments. Mr Major last October, were However, he denied that the Unionist votes had effectively been "bought" by the Govern-ment. "I don't see these positive things as buying us. I regard them as things that ought to have happened



Support for Ben Chapman, the Wirral South Labour candidate, from his daughter Bridget, during yesterday's by-election

Tebbit lambasts 'tacky' Heseltine

By POLLY NEWTON, POLITICAL REPORTER

Cabinet colleague Lord Tebbit of conduct that is 'tasteless, tacky if not dishonourable, and self-centered beyond even

the call of his profession".

In a withering attack on the Deputy Prime Minister, Lord Tebbit, once Tory party chairman, cites as an example the way Mr Heseltine tried to avoid National Service. He writes in a review of a new

MICHAEL HESELTINE has Heseltine biography: "It is wears his Guards tie as mentary candidates from rehard totally to condemn anyone knowing that National Service was coming to an end for seeking to escape completely. Having tried and failed to do that, to go on to escape from the Army by standing for Parliament in a hopelessly safe Labour seat is a more dubious.

but still forgivable, ploy. But it jars the nerves that after just 61 days' service as a second lieutenant Heseltine though he had served his regiment, not legally deserted it."

Mr Heseltine began his National Service in January 1959, when 25. A month after arriving, he was selected as Conservative candidate for the safe Labour seat of Gower in South Wales. In September 1959, when the election was called, he was allowed to resign from the Army under rules which prevented parlia-

He had completed a third of the expected period of National Service and spent of days with the Welsh Guards.

Three years later the rules were changed after a rash of applications by servicemen to stand for Parliament. Lord Tebbit says in a review in The Spectator of Michael

Crick's biography, Michael Continued on page 2, col 4

Law comes into play as judge overrules rugby ban

By Frances GIBB AND MICHAEL HORSNELL

A RUGBY union star who challenged his suspension from the game yesterday won a High Court ruling that opens the way to similar actions against sporting bod-ies whose decisions affect play-ers' livelihoods.

Mark Jones, a Welsh player who was sent off for fighting during a game against Swansea, won a ruling that he should not be suspended for four weeks pending his

In a decision which lawyers said marked the new professional climate of the game. Mrs Justice Ebsworth granted an injunction allowing Jones back on the field until an appeal over a disciplinary committee's decision is heard. Jones, Ebbw Vale's No 8. said that his four-week sus-

pension by the Welsh Rugby Union's disciplinary committee was unfair because he did not have a sufficient chance to put his side of the case. The player is paid £29,000 a

year, can earn bonuses of E10,000 for winning key games, and was "a vital mem-ber of the side". He can now continue playing until an ap-peal is completed, whether by an internal hearing or - if that fails - at a full High Court trial.

Mrs Justice Ebsworth said that sporting decisions had for years been made from "wet and windy" touchlines. But the new professional game meant that those decision now affected "many people who earn a living".

She said it was "naive" to contend - as it had been until recently - that the decisions of disciplinary committees could not be challenged, because the sanctions imposed now had "economic results" on those affected. The judge said that the lawyer representing Jones Continued on page 2, col 5

Santer joins the cloning debate

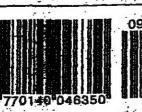
Think First Before You Phone

The President of the Euro-The Arrestocal of the European Commission has asked in the Commission has asked in the Commission by EU states to regular scenes in the light the species in the light the species of our by British arientists. Jacours Santer has tists. Jacques Santer has asked experts to produce a report on the ethical questions

Sacked Clinton aide spills beans

The disclosures about President Clinton's eagerness to reward big campaign contrib-utors with overnight stays in the Lincoln bedroom and other White House perks came from Harold Ickes, the desident's former deputy missed last year Page 12

The Times on the Internet



http://www.the-times.co.uk

TV & RADIO WEATHER CROSSWORDS.....

goes into cyberspace THE QUEEN, who prides

herself on being a thoroughly modern monarch, is about to make one of the great techno-logical leaps of her reign by having her own web site on the Internet. From next Thursday, 35

million computer users around the world who are plugged into the global infor-mation network will be able to access 150 pages of royal facts, from the monarch's date of birth to the opening times of Buckingham Palace.

A Palace spokeswoman said yesterday: "We don't sit here with quill pens, you know, we are already highly computerised. The internet can play a very important part in our public information role." The site's address is being kept secret until the Queen inaugurates the service next week at



"I declare this web site open - whoops

Kingsbury School, Brent, north London. Callers at the site will be able to find copious notes on royal history, finances, biogra-phies of current family mem-

bers and much more. But there will be no items of gossip or personal information, such as whether the Oueen's new television racing service has brought her more winners or where the Duchess of York will be taking her next foreign holiday.

LETTERS ______19, 27

OBITUARIÉS

MATTHEW PARRIS

Diane Blood wins right to have dead husband's baby

DIANE BLOOD was celebrating with champagne yesterday after winning the right to take her late husband's sperm. abroad for fertility Mrs Blood, who had been

fighting for the right to bear her husband Stephen's child for two years, said she was relieved, elated and jubilant. Her celebrations came after

the Human Fertilisation and Embryology Authority, which last year banned her from treatment in Britain and abroad, decided to make an exception in her case. The Authority ruled that Mrs Blood may export Stephen's sperm provided she attends a fertility clinic in Brussels for

treatment. Mrs Blood, 30, said: "It's wonderful news and I still can't quite believe it. I'm sure Stephen would be very proud

and happy."

The legal battle, which took
Mrs Blood to the High Court in London and The Court of Appeal, had been arduous but worthwhile, she said,

Mrs Blood's campaign began two years ago when Stephen contracted bacterial meningitis and fell into a coma in February 1995. He died before he could sign a consent form vital under HFEA rules regulating fertility treatment.

The Court of Appeal ruled three weeks ago that the Authority was wrong not to take proper account of Euro-pean law, which gives every European citizen the right to receive medical services in another member state unless there are overriding public policy reasons against it.

Lord Woolf, the Master of the Rolls, sitting with two other Appeal Court judges, referred Mrs Blood's case back to the Authority for reconsideration.

However, Mrs Blood's troubles are not over yet. The Belgian clinic where it is understood she hopes to use her husband's sperm to conceive could still turn down her

Dr Paul De Vroey, clinical director of the Centre for Reproductive Medicine at the Brussels Free University, said yesterday that if a request was received from Ms Blood, she would be interviewed and would receive counselling. Her treatment would then be considered by the clinical and

Photograph, page 22

Israeli President a boy with a new toy on RAF visit

BY ALAN HAMILTON

EVEN if you are a 72-year-old head of state, once bitten by the flying bug-you cannot leave planes alone, and especially if you helped to found and once commanded your country's air

President Weizman of Israel joined the RAF in Egypt in 1942. Yesterday he returned to RAF Cranwell in Lincolnshire as a guest which, without intending any slight to the Queen's

hospitality, he described as the pinna-cle of his three-day visit to Britain. When he squeezed into the cockpit of a Red Arrows Hawk trainer, his smile was that of a boy with a new toy as Squudron Leader Simon Meade described the controls - rather more complex than those of the Spitfires he flew in wartime India. He still occasionally flies a helicopter. "It may not be an F16, but to fly low at 130mph is a thrill for an old-timer," he said.

Asked what he thought of the

saw the performances in the Gulf; they are excellent. It is a problem for both the RAF and the Israeli Air Force how to be small but very good."

There are, however, important differences. The RAF now has women flying combat aircraft, and last year selected six more for pilot training. During his command of the Israeli Air Force, Mr Weizman resisted every pressure to put women in the cockpit. Last year, for the first time, the Israelis

.....31-33

accepted six for pilot training. All of them failed.

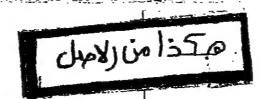
Clearly, for Mr Weizman, flying is a man's occupation. During his visit to Cranwell yesterday he reminisced with senior officers about his RAF days, but he did not mention that, when courting Reuma, his London-born wife, he supposedly flew his Spitfire over her tennis court and bombarded it with red roses.

Doglight renewed, page 3

SPORT39-42, 44 EDUCATION35

ACADEMY AWARD NOMINATIONS FROM THE DIRECTOR OF "THE PLANO" A FILM BY JANE CAMPION BARBARA MALKOVICH KIDMAN HERSHEY ~ STARTS TODAY -

AT A CINEMA NEAR YOU



CHESS & BRIDGE.....41

COURT & SOCIAL.....20

Mr Ashdown winks and everything falls into place again

هكذا من رلامل

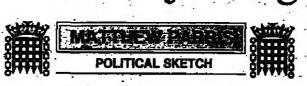
s Michael Brown (C. Brigg & Cleethorpes) los-ing his bottle? Once in tune with the splendidly robust mood of today's Tory party. Mr Brown has gone all wishy-washy and sentimental. Hard-nosed Home Secretary Michael Howard heard Brown complain to the PM yesterday about "stowaways. who have been arriving, unfortunately, dead, in small ships, at Felixstowe". They had travelled "in dreadful conditions. Though they are

arriving, as I say, dead, and something ought to be done about it."

"Unfortunately" dead, Mr Brown? Illegal immigrants unfortunately dead? Get a grip on yourself, man. Have a drink with Michael Howard. He'll sort you out.

To miss the key to Prime Minister's Questions yester-day was to miss all: like someone with a coded message but no code. And if your attention had slipped, you would have missed it. It lasted. illegal immigrants they are half a second

To that key in a moment. First let us set the scene. The Opposition were indignant about Gulf War syndrome, the alleged ministry cover-up, and medical provision for British troops. Neil Gerrard (Lab, Walthamstow) was first. Why were Tory ministers refusing to take personal responsibility for mistakes over organophos-phates? People had died. Michael Portillo, the Defence Secretary, was (was he not?) "without honour". Opposition backbenchers howled their agreement. Strong stuff. Tony



Blair opened up a second frontof moral outrage. A Defence Select Committee report had judged medical provision for our troops cruelly deficient, said the Labour leader. Which minister will take responsibility?" How could the Prime Minister delay com-

ment or action on this? When

would we have his response?

Opposition backbenchers shouted: "Answer! Answer!" Paddy Ashdown returned to the original charge. How dare Mr Major call the Gulf War syndrome "an ailment"? Did he not realise that this was a terrible illness? At his best (as he was yesterday) the Liberal Democrat leader is most effective at communicating a cer-

tain terse conviction. His voice rings with authority and sincerity. He knows. He cares. Liberal Democrats led the opposition benches in a further cheer of support and anger.

Through all this, John Ma-jor seemed unsettled and cross. Perhaps he had early intimations of a bad result from the Wirral by election; perhaps he felt defensive or concerned about organophosphates. Whatever it was, Mr. Major was not having a good afternoon. By contrast, Mr. afternoon. By contrast, Mr. nice pincer move by your Astidown now reinforced an man and me eh?" It can say

impression, conveyed equally by Mr Blair and his backbenchers, of principled outrage. Eyes blazing he sat down. The cameras moved off.

Then he winked I missed it; but two colleagues and a friend in the Gallery report the samé. Paddy Ashdown winked towards Labour's Chief Whip, Donald Dewar. A wink can say all manner of things. It can say "Gotchathat skewered him". It can say

mate". Nod-nod, wink-wink. Which if any of these things Mr. Ashdown's wink was meant to imply, or to whom, we cannot know but of this we can be sure: that if you do not catch the wink in Commons life, you will never really understand the British Parliament. The whole chamber winks The Mace winks. Every stone, évery policeman, every bewigged clerk and carved gargoyle, every portrait of bygone statesmen, winks, here at Westminster.

Santer orders EU investigation into ethics of cloning

By NIGEL HAWKES AND CHARLES BREMNER

JACOUES SANTER, president of the European Commission, joined the debate over Dolly, the cloned sheep, yes-terday. He asked EC officials to investigate whether there was a need for joint action by the 15 EU states to regulate genetics and asked the Commission's biotechnology advisory group of independent experts to produce a report on the fundamental ethical

Commission officials said an EU ban already existed on the cloning of humans, but until now Brussels has not tried to regulate other forms of genetic manipulation, and is not even certain it has the authority to do so.

Mr Santer said: The Commission will be examining the whole question in the light of the results of these initiatives, to see if the Commission has any specific competence in this area."

His intervention followed a plea from MEPs on the Euronean Parliament's environment, public health and consumer protection committee. Committee chairman Ken Collins (Strathclyde East) said: "Cloning breaks new ground, a fact which may deeply disturb and frighten many people. To answer these fears we need to ensure that all we ought to tell the truth the benefits of genetic manipulation technology are not lost

London at its first meeting, a new government advisory body, the Human Genetics Advisory Commission, discussed whether the 1990 Human Fertilisation and Embryology Act, which bans human cloning, is sufficiently explicit. The law was written before the new technique used

to create Dolly had been devised. Sir Colin Campbell, Vice-Chancellor of the University of Nottingham and chairman of the advisory commission, is to write to his opposite number at the Human Fertilisation and Embryology Authority "to confirm the adequacy of the existing law"

The 1990 Act bans cloning by the technique called nuclear transfer, in which the nucleus of an embryo is replaced by one from another cell or embryo. But the use of adult cells was not then contemplated. Baroness Warnock, whose committee recommended the law, believes an amendment may be

"We didn't know about doning from adult cells, and the act probably now needs to be amended to outlaw all human

cloning," she has said. In an interview with BBC Radio, Sir Colin said: "Above and say where there are wonderful promises and exhealth care, but also where there are terrible dangers. We have to be objective and balanced and point out the good things and the bad things, and then listen to what the public

"Science in this country and in every other country will not stop ... But with the power of global communication new scientific advances carried out in an unregulated country will be known to us within moments.

Some of the strongest opinions have been expressed in Germany, where one Socialist MEP, Dagmar Roth-Beh-rendt, has called for a morato-rium on cloning while a global ethical inquiry is carried out. She said the World Trade Organisation should under-

But Guy Paillotin, president of the French National Institute for Agricultural Research. a state-funded agency, said news of the experiment was whipping up panic" by raising the prospect that similar experiments could be performed on humans.

M Paillotin said that real scientific issues were already being sidetracked by "stupid" talk of mad scientists cloning humans. He said: "Everyone thinks that it will be used to clone a human ... We must say very loudly that this is out of the question, that this is





Tebbit lambasts Heseltine

Continued from page I Heseltine, that the only thing for which he will be remembered is "the political regicide which brought down our

reatest post-war Prime Minister' He adds of Mr Heseitine, who prompted the Tory leadership fight that ended Baron-ess [then Margaret] Thatch-er's premiership in 1990: "At the roots of his hostility to her is a macho streak which sees only a subservient role for women, however talented, and a resentment that a woman

achieved the supreme office which he coveted and which was denied him." Lord Tebbit says Mr Heseltine, as an adolescent, became "a political missile" targeted on the office of prime minister.

eltine seems not to have wanted friends but actively used acolytes until their usefulness waned and they were

But, of Mr Crick, the biographer, he says: "He scarcely understands why someone like me set personal ambition aside to stop him. Heseltine's laser-guided system can focus on only one target at a time. He is a supremely good oneball juggler, but a prime minister must keep a dozen or more balls in the air — and that he could not do."

Lord Tebbit says Mr Hesel-tine was responsible for bungling privatising the Post Office and the coal industry, was "lacklustre" at the Department of the Environment. and "let the Nimrod project

Rugby ban

Continued from page [had argued that the disciplin-

ary hearing was unfair

because there was no proper

inquiry into the facts; he had

no legal representation; the video was viewed in private, and the committee did not

have an open mind when it

reached its decision, which imposed a sanction of "unrea-

sonable length". She said the disciplinary

proceedings gave the player no real rights and that the

committee exercised powers

and gave decisions which affect the livelihood of the

players.

MPs and others gave a warning that the ruling could

damage British sport, opening the floodgates for a host of

similar claims. And lawyers

agreed that the ruling under-

lined the changed climate in

which courts increasingly would be asked to intervene in

sports through a variety of

legal challenges, including

personal injury claims.

Jones, a lo-stone forward,

said: The referee is never

wrong and I have not chai-

lenged his decision in any way

whatsoever ... The issue was

how the disciplinary hearing

was then conducted - of there

being no representation; no

right of appeal. I am ecstatic. I

am delighted with

Defence Secretary. However he acknowledges that Mr Heseltine achieved successes, including the creation of Urban Development Corporations, the establishment of the Audit Commission and his campaign against CND. "It is a pity he was never sent to sort

out social security," he adds. Mr Heseltine was defended yesterday by Sir Nicholas Scott, the former Tory minis-ter, who said: "Not for the first time my very good friend Norman Tebbit has gone over the top."

Attempting to play down the attack's significance, Sir Nicholas added: "I don't think that Norman these days is regarded as being a serious player in the political field."

Mr Heseltine was making

Stowaway

deaths

inquiry

promised

BY ANDREW PTERCE

POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

JOHN MAJOR has promised an investigation into the

deaths of seven illegal immi-

grants who stowed away on

The bodies were found at two ports on the Humber, in the holds of vessels that had

set sail for Europe from Africa

with cargoes of copper. Two

bodies were discovered last

week in the hold of the Danish

registered Jenna Monk

which berthed at New Hol-

land. In the past six months,

five bodies have been found in

boats calling at Immingham and New Holland. They were

Police inquiries have failed

to disclose why the problem,

new to the Humber ports, has

suddenly arisen. Inquests can-

not be held until the bodies have been identified, which

the boats shows only one

common link: that the ships all called at the the port of

Abidjan on the Ivory Coast.

The men are thought to have

died from dehydration in the

sealed hold of the boats or

from the effects of pesticide

The problem was raised at

Prime Minister's Questions yesterday by Michael Brown,

MP for Brigg and Clee-thorpes, who told Mr Major:

Although they are illegal

immigrants, they are arriving

dead, and something needs to

Mr Major said that the matter would be looked into

by Malcolm Rifkind, the For-

used to kill maggots.

be done about it."

could prove impossible. Paperwork discovered on

all African men.

ships bound for Britain.

Water being sold too cheap, ministers told

Water companies and consumers should pay more for water if Britain is to conserve supplies, save rivers and protect wildlife into the next century, government advisers say. In a report to ministers, the UK Round Table on Sustainable Development also calls on government to take a more active and traditional role in planning water resources. It says that a national strategy balancing the needs of consumers, the environment and the water industry is urgently needed and that only government can take on such a strategic role.

The advisers, drawn from academia, industry and environmental groups, say the importance of water is not being reflected in its cost and recommend more widespread use of metering to encourage homes and industry to use water supplies more wisely.

Runcie call over Europe

Lord Runcie appealed last night for an end to "quarrelling selfish factions" in the debate over Europe and a renewed recognition of European idenity. The former Archbishop of recognition of European identity. The former Architectop of Cambridge University divasity school to commemorate the fourteenth centenary of St Augustine's arrival and his mission to convert England. He said: "A glance at Canterbury's history banishes any sense of insularity when we see what those from abroad have contributed to it."

E. coli butcher reopens

The Scottish town hit by the world's second worst E. coli 0157 food poisoning epidemic braved freezing winter drizzle to welcome their favourite butcher back in business yesterday. In a show of loyalty and affection customers turned out in droves to buy pies, cooked meat and prime cuts from John M. Barr & Son, of Wishaw, Lanarkshire, the butcher thought to be the source of the outbreak that killed 18 people in central Scotland last year. His first customer was David Goodwin, 22, a trainee microbiologist.

Forces' medical 'crisis'

Britain no longer has enough medical teams to treat wounded soldiers in war because of excessive cuts. MPs on the Defence Select Committe said yesterday. Staff shortages in the Defence Medical Services were so serious that the MPs doubted whether "it will ever recover". With the closure of three military hospitals and service medics now working in special units in civilian hospitals, it was possible, the MPs Armed Forces had been destroyed.

artis arisin 🍇

Major defends Soames

The Prime Minister was urged in the Commons yesterday to agree to compensation for former service personnel suffering from so-called Gulf War syndrome. John Major defended Nicholas Soames, the Armed Forces Minister, in the face of Labour demands for his resignation over the matter, and told MPs that compensation could not be paid until the cause of the illnesses had been resolved. Although no Gulf War veteran has yet sued the Ministry of Defence, more than 1,200 have indicated their intention to do so.

Princess faces tribunal

Diana, Princess of Wales, may be asked to give evi-dence at an industrial tribunal next week over the dismissal of the housemaid Sylvia McDermott (right). Ms McDemott, 43, who worked at Kensington Pal-ace from 1987 until last November, is demanding reinstatement. Her lawyers said that if the Princess refused, they might serve a witness statement requiring her to attend the hearing in



They said: "The lawyers for Diana, Princess of Wales have conceded that the dismissal was unfair, but her request for re-employment has been refused." Ms McDermott, who earned £9,000 a year, is said to have turned down an offer of

More support abortion

A woman's right to choose an abortion is supported by an increasing number of Britons, including half of Roman Catholics, according to a MORI poll. Growing numbers of people, however, are rejecting the idea of terminating a pregnancy on the grounds that the child would be mentally or physically handicapped. MORI began questioning 1,943 adults on the day that the Prolife Alliance party announced it would field 50 candidates at the General Election demanding an end to all abortions, except to save a life.

We may be alone again

Two astronomers from the University of Geneva who found a planet orbiting around a distant star were mistaken, a professor has claimed. The discovery 16 months ago was the first evidence that stars other than the Sun have planets, and increased the chance of life elsewhere in the universe. But David Gray of the University of Western Ontario says in Nature that natural variations in the star explain "wobbles" in its image that the astronomers identified as being caused by a massive planet orbiting close to the star.

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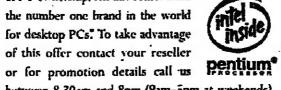
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MPs admonish aid agency

THE Overseas Development Administration was rebuked by MPs last night for failing to make adequate checks on British firms that received grants to assist overseas aid projects (Valerie Elliott writes). Potential conflict were exposed after scrutiny of a

£66.75 million joint project by the Turkish Higher Education Council and a British company. TecQuipment. A report by the Commons

Public Accounts Committee yesterday showed that Tec-Quipment had many overlapping roles in the project, £23.36 million grant to a including evaluation of ten-

ders. The firm had given business worth £10 million to Fisons, which had provided it with a bank guarantee. The MPs said: "We are

disturbed that lessons such as these had still to be learnt by a government department with so much experience in admin-











President Weizman, left, and in the Spitfire he was flying when he fired on RAF pilot Douglas Liquorish, pictured right in a Spitfire, after the Israeli mistook his plane for an Egyptian aircraft. Mr Liquorish said he bore no animosity

'He was very sneaky — but he did not shoot me down as he claimed'

DOUGLAS LIQUORISH is not sure if the RAF excluded him from their welcoming party for Ezer Weizman yes-terday in case the two might have carried on their scrap from nearly 50 years ago.

e cultimer Europe

They clashed in a doglight over the Israeli desert in 1949 and have never met since, which disappoints 72-year-old Mr Liquorish as he wishes the President of Israel to know he bears him no animosity for crippling his Tempest fighter. plane and giving him the fright of his life.

Britain was at peace on January 7, 1949, the day of an Egypt and Israel, when four RAF Spittires were ordered to patrol the disputed border to monitor troop movements and protect British military bases

THE sale of a salvaged Spit-

fire to an American collector

Arthur Woolass 69, a re-

tired salvage engineer, says

that he is prepared to go to court to prove he is the owner.

of the aircraft that was sold

for £73,000 by two restoration

enthusiasts at Sotheby's last

November. He said yester-

has been challenged.

■ Daniel McGrory meets a man with vivid memories of a deadly aerial duel over the Israeli desert almost 50 years ago

its Spitfires; one pilot was dead and three were still missing when Mr Liquorish and the others of 6 Squadron were scrambled from their base at Deversoir in the early afternoon:

We didn't even know what the mission was when we took off, but once in the air it was made clear London was going mad about losing four planes in a day when we weren't supposed to be at war," Mr Liquorish said. The RAF pilots came up behind four Spitlires which they presumed were

Spitfire sell-off challenged

The Spitfire crashed into

mudflats on the Humber near

Mr Woolass's home in

Swinefleet, North Lincoln-

shire, on September 9, 1944. He says that his salvage claim was accepted by the Air Ministry in 1960. But in 1983 Stephen Arnold and Julian Mitchell, the eventual sellers.

and expansive hand gestures how the four immediately banked away from the Britons as they flew over Rafah and then circled to appear from behind them. The Spittires were being flown by the Israelis, who had mistaken

them for Egyptians. "He was very sneaky," Mr. Liquorice recalled yesterday. "He and the other Israelis. came out of the sun and blinded us. But he didn't shoot me down as he has always claimed. I made it home, battered but in one piece.

"One of our squadron was in Egypt. All four were shot Forty-eight years on he killed instantly and I saw his down by Israeli ground fire or describes with vivid clarity aircraft spiralling down and a

project at their homes in Kidlington, Oxfordshire.

John Foster, Mr Woolass's

solicitor, said: "Because of the

age of Mr Woolass's claim the

salvage work was probably

undertaken in complete igno-

rance that he had previously been given permission." Mr Woolass said: "I was

shocked when I heard it had

been sold. I never even knew

it had been recovered."

tearing into my plane with one ending up buried in the seat armour right behind my head. That was my first time in combat." He still has the shell and would be delighted to return it to its rightful owner.

Mr Liquorish does not take issue with President Weizman's account that the Israelis mistook them for Egyptian Spittires, even though his Tempest was half as big again and more bulbous than a

"At the speeds we were going and in that confusion he obviously shot first and asked questions later. Perhaps, the Israelis were a mite trigger happy," he said. All three forces flew Spitfires, "which made life a bit complicated up

Another survivor from that encounter, Flight Lieutenant Brian Spragg, DFC, told yes-terday how he was first to retaliate, firing on Weizman, damaging his Spitfire and forcing the Israelis into swift retreat. "If my aim had been better, by about two feet to the left, President Weizman would not be a guest of Her Majesty this week." Mr Spragg said.
"He was trying to do the

same to me, but with some peculiar manoeuvres I got ehind him and let loose on his tail," he said with practised understatement. His account of the doglight in his pilots log simply reports "had a





Mr Liquorish displays his pilot's log, and President Weizman on a visit to RAF Cranwell yesterday

tussle with a Yiddish Spit". Mr Liquorish does take exception to President Weizman's claim in his autobiography, On Eagles' Wings, that he downed the RAF plane at Al-Arish. "I steered that old crate home with one wing hanging off, it was bleeding oil and I didn't know if the hydraulics would work but I landed back at our own base,

albeit somewhat clumsily." It

was not until the early 1980s and military records were released Mr Liquorish realised who his attacker was.

His former Squadron Leader, later to become Air Marshal Sir Denis Crowley-Milling, did meet President Weizman at a function. "He telephoned me and said, 'You were always a hot-tempered sort. Doug, so I had better not invite you in case you land one

on his chin'," Mr Liquorish said. His home in Norfolk is decorated with photographs and an oil painting of his Tempest, the Lady Jane, named after his then girlfriend. His wife, Beryl, was

I still think I might punch Her husband chastened her: "All is fair in love and

not forgiving: "I know Doug is

keen to meet Mr Weizman but

war. We were both as mad as hatters in those days - you had to be to fly planes like that. You did not think about the man in the cockpit, you just saw the plane and your only thought was to disable it, bring it down, not kill the fellow at the controls.

"It was self-preservation and I'm glad we both survived to tell the tale — albeit in our own different ways."

dug it out of the mud and money. All I want is justice. started a 13-year restoration Treasurer jailed

for golf club fraud BY PAUL WILKINSON

country's oldest golf clubs has been jailed after he embezzled more than £120,000 earmarked for improvements to the green and clubbouse.

Alan Craddock, 46, a for-mer senior official with Barclays Bank, earned £25,000 a year but ran two cars, one a high-powered Saab with a personalised

Yesterday as he started a 2½-year sentence, his former club colleagues were trying to get him banned from every club in the county. Craddock admitted stealing £123,000 from the Bishop Auckland Golf Club in Co Durham, when he ameared at the when he appeared at the city's Crown Court.

Officials of the club, which was founded in 1894, thought the money was safe in an Craddock had worked but when they approached the bank to discuss the project, they were told that they

would need an overdraft. Glynn Thatcher, the club secretary, said: "Lots of people feel very bitter. We've taken out a loan for £125,000 and will have to pay it back over 15 years. We should not have had to do that."

In 1991 Craddock started running short of cash and set up a secret second account and paid funds into it. He make it look like the real

account was full.

Craddock, who was later made redundant, vanished last November when the deception was discovered. He booked into a hotel in York and wrote 18 snicide letters to friends and family but police traced him the next day.

Ex-college head is asked about missing artworks

THE former principal of a university college is to be works of art and furniture.

Duane Arnold resigned last month as head of St Chad's College at Durham after de-tails of his qualifications listed in Who's Who and other reference directories proved to be false. He blamed clerical errors and a plot against him by academics who disapproved of his radical methods. Last year the 280 students of St Chad's passed three motions censuring his management style and expressing no confi-dence in him as their

principal. Since his return to America in December with his wife Jane, a part-time development has emerged that a number of items cannot be found.

After taking over in 1994 as



Arnold: resigned over bogus qualifications

head of the college, an inde-pendent body controlled by the Church of England, Dr Duane Wade-Hampton Arnold, 43, as he styled himself, began a number of alterations and redecorations to his 18thcentury listed lodgings and other college buildings. One academic accused him of attempting to convert the en-trance hall of his lodgings near the Norman Cathedral into a replica of the Oval

Office in the White House. During the alterations several pieces of furniture, paintings and ornaments were put in store. Among the pieces college officials have been unable to trace and which may still be in storage are an 18th-century chest of drawers, an oil painting and about a dozen objets d'art.
The officials are attempting

to contact Dr Arnold through his English solicitors to see if he can shed any light on their whereabouts.

The college authorities contacted Durham police over the matter but were told its officers could not start an investigation before the college had carried out a thorough check and had contacted Dr Arnold to see if he could help to trace the missing items.

Two win Hoover damages

By ADAM FRESCO

TWO customers who lost out in the Hoover free flights fiasco were awarded damages yesterday in a move that could lead to thousands of other daims against the company.

District Judge Bennett ruled that Hoover abused a get-out clause when it refused to issue tickets to America in the 1994 promotion, stating there could be only one application per household. The firm said separate applications from the same address invalidated the claims but Judge Bennet, at St Helen's County Court. said the clause should not have cancelled out all rights to free tickets but restricted

Hoover's obligation to provide two free tickets to the address. He awarded £461 compensation to Peter Lucas, from Sutton Coldfield, West Midlands, and £466 to Norman

Magowan, of Belfast.

Father suspected son over murder

By A STAFF REPORTER

A SOLICITOR who became

suspicious that his teenage son had been involved in the murder of one homosexual and an attack on another forced him to confess his role, a court was told yesterday. Michael Bownes, senior solicitor with Plymouth council,

said he first began worrying about his son, Richard, when he realised he had done a load of washing in the middle of the night and did not get up to go to college. He had heard about the killing of Frederick Sweet, 64, and the attack on Bernard Hawken, 53, in Central Park, Plymouth, on the news and had slowly come to realise that

Richard Bownes, 18, Roberto Pace, 18, and Stuart Smith, 19, all of Plymouth, deny murdering Mr Sweet, attempting to murder Mr Hawken and causing him

grievous bodily harm with The jury at Exeter Crown Court has been told that the two men were attacked separately on November 6 last year. Mr Sweet was killed by being kicked, punched and

stamped on. Mr Hawken sur-

vived a similar attack but is

still too ill to testify.

Mr Bownes did not give evidence in person but his statement was read to the jury. He said he had confronted his son, who said he knew nothing about the attacks. Later, he had tackled him again. "I said to Richard, You were involved weren't you? and he replied that he had thrown a punch but had not been involved in the beating. He said he had tried to stop it . .fs2. He was trying to tell me he was on the

fringes."
The case continues.

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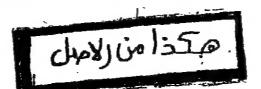
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Annette Edwards, 45, with eight of her ten children, attributes her youthfulness to the NIVEA Visage facecare range. Whether your mother

has one child or ten, she's still a special murn. Make her feel exceptional with a gift of NIVEA Visage on Mother's Day, Sunday March 9th.



Home Secretary heads for confrontation with judges and lawyers over proposals for swifter justice

Howard sets out plans to curb right to trial by jury

AND FRANCES GIBB

MICHAEL HOWARD yesterday embarked on another confrontation with the legal on the right to trial by jury and other substantial changes to the criminal justice system.

Thousands of offenders, including burglars and some sex offenders, would be likely to receive lighter sentences as a result of proposals for more cases to be dealt with by magistrates rather than the olds would be dealt with in adult rather than the youth courts and the Crown Prosecution Service would lose its power to discontinue cases on rounds that it would not be in

public interest to prosecute. A defendant pleading guilty could get free advice from a duty solicitor at court in the hope that they would be dealt with the day after being charged. Anyone seeking a delay because they could not get their own lawyer would be forced to use the duty solicitor.

Mr Howard published 33 detailed proposals in a report by a civil servant, saying that they would speed up the process of justice and reduce costs by £55 million. Fourteen of the measures would require legislation and all must now go out to consultation.

The Conservatives cannot introduce the proposals before the general election. If Labour THE MAIN POINTS

jury trial withdrawn in range of cases, including , causing actual harm, many indecency charges, theft

☐ Offenders aged 17 to be dealt with by adult rather than youth courts. ☐ CPS loses right to discontinue cases on publicinterest grounds.

☐ CPS staff to work from quickly with guilty pleas.

Stipendiary mag-istrates to sit alone in

youth courts, particularly in complex cases.

☐ Lay staff in CPS offices should be able to review case files, and non-lawyers employed by CPS should present un-

wins the general election it would not proceed with the

The Home Secretary admitted that the proposal to curb the automatic right to jury trial for certain offences was "especially sensitive". In a statement to the Commons he added: "Jury trial is a central feature of our system of justice and one to which the Government is entirely committed. We would not wish to restrict

Howard: quicker justice

☐ Clerks to justices to manage pretrial preparation of all cases.

Youth court should

Too many petty cases were heard at Crown Court, he said, adding that defendants good reason for a jury trial, including those defending an unblemished reputation, would be able to appeal to magistrates.

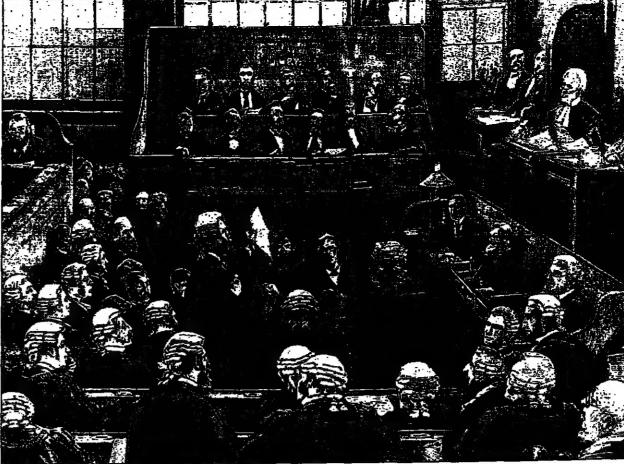
Removing the automatic right to jury trial in cases such as theft, handling stolen goods

rather than in Crown Court, the report estimates. It could also lead to lighter sentences; the average jail term meted 2.8 months compared with 22 months in the Crown Court.

Jack Straw, the Shadow Home Secretary, told the Commons that Labour welcomed many of the recommendations, particularly reducing the age of adulthood in the courts from 18 to 17. But, he said, any erosion of the right to jury trials would be wrong. "If a police officer or an MP or even the Secretary of State was charged with an offence of dishonesty, would they not insist on being tried by a jury?" he asked. "If that is the case, why should others be

denied this right of election?" Some senior judges have strong reservations about any erosion of trial by jury and over proposals to strengthen the role of the Crown Prosecution Service in police stations.

Magistrates welcomed many of the proposals to reduce delays but said that rather than the right to elect jury trial being curbed, they favoured offences being reclassified so that some could be tried only by magistrates. The Magistrates' Association also attacked the proposal that justices' clerks or court clerks should decide matters such as



A jury at the Central Criminal Court as depicted more than a century ago. The system goes back to Magna Carta

demned the proposal on jury trial. Robert Owen, QC, the Bar chairman, said the proals would have to be carefully considered but that "we do not believe that the interests of justice should ever be suborned to the demands of administrative convenience". The proposal to remove the right of defendants to elect for trial by jury would mean thousands of people losing the right to be tried by an ordinary

The Crown Court was "delivering justice daily in thousands of cases which attract no publicity at all - and it is doing it as swiftly as is consistent with doing justice to accuser and accused alike". It would also compound delays

The Law Society strongly

such a fundamental right when it affects only a relatively small number of cases".

The right of defendants to opt for jury trial only results in a jury trial in about one in 200 to the Crown Court, only one in four reach there because of the defendant's choice. Robert Roscoe, of the society's crimishould not come before the interests of justice. Research done for the Royal Commission on Criminal Jus-

tice showed that 27 per cent of those electing trial intended from the outset to plead guilty. By the day of the trial, 83 per cent had pleaded guilty to some or all charges. Half those electing trial at the Crown Court believed that it

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Twelve good men and true are historic pillar of law

the 13th century and Magna. Carta. But the right to elect jury trial instead of appearing before magistrates for certain offences has existed only for ust over 100 years. In Scotland it does not exist; the prosecutor decides on the mue of trial.

Reneated attempts since the 1970s to curb jury trials have failed in the face of opposition Yesterday's proposals were drawn from a recommendation of the Royal Commission on Criminal Justice which reported under Lord Runciman of Doxford in 1993. It was the most controversial of the 352 recommendations

made by the commission. The origins of the jury are lost in history. The word comes from the Latin for law, jus, juris. The idea may have been indigenous or imported by the Norman invaders of 1066 but it was in place by the 13th century, gradually replac-ing trial by ordeal.

Jury trial was thought to be enshrined as a constitutional right in Magna Carta in 1215, which says that "no freeman shall be taken or/and impris-oned, or disseised, or exiled, or in any way destroyed ... except by the lawful judgment of his peers or/and by the law of the land". But historians now believe that this refers to a decision of a judge rather

than a jury.

The original role of jurors was very different from that of today: they were witnesses who swore an eath but did not pronounce judgment. They came from the same neighbourhood as the accused and their job was to determine the facts of the case using their knowledge of him and local circumstances.

The anonymity of jurors developed as the close-knit medieval society broke down and towns grew. Now the 12 members of the jury are required to give an impartial verdict, and to do so must have no prior knowledge of the nearest

Many judges and historians have described the jury system as a safeguard of individual liberty. Lord Devlin, the late law lord, said the jury "is the lamp that shows that freedom lives". William Blackstone, the 18thcentury legal historian, called it "the bulwark of our liberties, the glory of English law".

Frances Gibb, legal correspondent, looks at the history of the jury system, once called "the lamp that shows that freedom lives"

In principle the jury is a random selection of a defendant's peers but that has never been strictly true. Until 1972 cases were heard by mostly In lengthy trials today there

wives and elderly and unemployed people, because workers cannot afford a long period away from their job. The Juries Act 1974 has a long list of those who are exempt or who can be excused

from jury service, including members of the legal profes-sion, clergymen and people convicted of criminal offences in the previous ten years. Defendants were given the right to elect jury trial in the 1879 Summary Jurisdiction Act, which introduced the

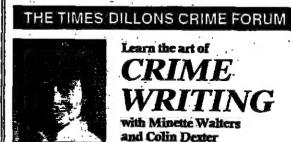
choice for all offences with a

maximum sentence excee ing three months in jail. In 1975 the James Commit

the right to elect jury trial for small thefts. The proposal was opposed by a majority in ernment officials put forward ing of the Lord Chief Justice at the time, Lord Lane. Again it proved controversial and the Government did not proceed. In the civil courts, the role

of the jury has declined hugely this century. As recently as 1933, 50 per cent of civil cases involved a jury. Today they are chiefly found in libel cases, although a jury of eight may be called at the county court at the discretion of the

A coroner can call a jury of between seven and eleven people in some cases.



TWO of Britain's leading crime novelists, Minette Walters (above) and Colin Dexter, will discuss the wanters (anove) and Coun Dexier, will discuss the art of crime writing at a Times/Dillons Forum at 7.30pm on Tuesday, March 4, at the Institute of Education, London WCl. The audience will also have a chance to question the authors.

Dexier's books are worldwide bestsellers and his

Dexter's books are worldwide besisellers and his Inspector Morse television series topped the ratings with 18 million viewers. Minette Walters has also had television success with The Sculptress.

The admission includes £2 off the price of Walters's new novel The Echo (£16.99) and £1 off Dexter's Death is Now My Neighbour (£9.99).

For full details of how to book, see coupon (below).

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Prisoner swapped Parkhurst for Italian sunshine

BY RICHARD OWEN IN ROME AND STEWART TENDLER, CRIME CORRESPONDENT

VALERIO VICCEI, the man newspaper reports about his come to the view that "a life of behind the £40 million new-found freedom Viccei put crime was leading me towards Knightsbridge safe deposit robbery, described yesterday how he swapped a cell at Parkhurst for a life of virtual freedom under the Italian

seven, years after he was in the robbery have been let in the robbery have to the prison at Pescara on the

Viccei was transferred to Italy four years ago. Under the Treaty of Strasbourg, offend-ers can ask to serve their sentences in their home country rather than the country where their crimes were com-,

Yesterday, stung by British

his case to Corriere della Sera newspaper. He said he was angered by suggestions in the British press that his transfer to Italy had been scandalous". "All the others involved in the robbery have been let

student when he became in-volved in right-wing terrorist groups in Italy. They carried out a number of bombings and shootings in the 1970s and

"I had a passion for weapons, beautiful women and fast cars," he said. He also killed a man, a "psychopathic" fellow prisoner. He claimed selfdefence and was acquitted. By 1985, Viccei said, he had

crune was leading me towards complete madness. I decided to make a new life for myself. and ran away to London." His attempts to go straight in Britain failed, "and one robbery led to another. Viccei, 42, said life in

Parkhurst top security prison on the Isle of Wight had been very tough. They took away everything - my Ferrari, my Vuitton suitcases, my cashmere sweaters, my watches." He chose Pescara, known

for its up-market cases and designer boutiques, to be close to my family, who come from the area. He has a smallflat, where he is allowed to spend some of the day before returning to prison. Viccei, who maintains an

athletic build, dresses with suave elegance. His only com-



Valerio Viccei, who goes to work from prison each day in Pescara, on the Adriatic, where he also has a flat

to work in a lawyer's office, "in case I come into contact with members of the underworld. It is a prospect he regards as laughable, since he says he is "a completely reformed char-

Describing the 1967 rob-

bery. Viccei said that 114 safe deposit boxes in a vault near Harrods were cleared in under two hours. "No one was hurt, no shots were fired." He denied the haul had amounted to £40 million. "Some of the deposit boxes did not contain what the owners said they

contained. Other boxes — at least 40 of them — contained cash and valuables that must have been 'dirty', because after the robbery the owners never

made a claim." Despite his life in Pescara Vicces rejects the idea that he is being treated leniently for a

life of crime, or that the Knightsbridge robbery was a successful "caper". On the contrary, he regards himself as a failure: The rule in this

game is that if they don't catch

you, you're a genius, but if

they do, you're a miserable

Parkinson's patient has pig cell transplant

By NIGEL HAWKES

PIG cells have been transplanted into the brain of a Parkinson's disease patient, where they survived for seven months.

The patient, a 69-year-old man, showed signs of recovery after the transplant but died of lungs. A post-mortem exami-nation showed that the pig cells had survived and spread

within the man's brain. In Parkinson's disease the brain cells that produce the chemical dopamine die off. Experiments in which patients have been given cells from human foctuses to restore the capability have been promising but there have been ethical

As an alternative, a team led by Dr Ole Isacson at Harvard Medical School used foetal cells from pigs. In Nature Medicine, the team reports that the survival of the transplant suggests that pig cells may provide safe non-human tissue for transplantation to a large number of people with Parkinson's disease.

Muslims experience increase in hatred

BY RUTH GLEDHILL KELIGION CORRESPONDENT

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& THIRE DILLOWS CHE

HATRED of Islam and Muslims is prevalent in all sections of society and in the past 20 years has become more explicit, extreme and darigerous than ever, according to a

report published yesterday.
Islamophobia affects the participation of Britain's life, the education system and employment, the report says. It affects the amount of violence and harassment aherents of the faith suffer, and the extent of their poverty and deprivation.

The consultation paper, drawn up by leading churchmen, rabbis and academics, including the Bishop of London, the Right Rev Richard Chartres, was launched by the Runnymede Trust: It attempts to draw attention to the problem and highight possible areas of

The paper argues that Islam is often seen as implacably hostile to the non-Islamic world. "It is certainly the case that Islam is depicted in Islamophobic discourse as wholly evil," the report says, arguing that anti-Islam prejudice in Britian is often mixed with racism.

Follow your hunches to make a decision

BY NIGEL HAWKES SCIENCE EDITOR

and got them wrong.

The results have been hailed as "really exciting" by

INTUITION may be more important in decision making than thought. Scientists have found that successful decision-makers showed emotional responses before they took decisions: sweating slightly and becoming tense. In contrast, a group of brain-damaged individuals who seemed unable to make sensible decisions suffered from a lack of intuitive instinct. They made their decisions calmly,

Dr Stephen Kosslyn, a psy-chologist of Harvard University. "Emotion apparently is not something that necessarily clouds reasoning but rather seems to provide an essential foundation for some kinds of reasoning," he says.

The experiments, reported in Science, were carried out by a team led by Anthony Damasio of the University of Iowa: He believes that people with damage to the prefrontal cortex of the brain are unable to remember rewards and punishments, so cannot trigger the emotional responses that we recognise as intuition - and so make bad decisions



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HOME NEWS

Judge upholds refusal to fund blood treatment

A HIGH COURT judge yesterday rejected accusations by the families of four haemophiliac boys that local health authorities had unlawfully refused to fund treatment with an expensive blood clotting agent because of the cost. Mr Justice Jowitt said the health authorities were enti-

tled to adopt certain policies and the parents would have a case only if they could show that the authorities had failed to consider whether their children had "special needs".

He said none of the families had yet applied for their children to be considered as exceptional and yesterday's

ALL patients with haemophil-

ia should be treated with the

genetically engineered form of

the blood clotting agent Factor

recombinant form is safer because it is not made from blood

and so cannot transmit virus-

es. In recent guidelines, the

UK Haemophilia Centre Dir-

ectors Organisation said the

recombinant version should

be given first to children and

other new patients uninfected

by viruses if the cost necessi-

tated it being phased in. Use of

the older form of Factor VIII.

Although it costs more, the

VIII, consultants say.

mature". The judge said they should not build up false expectations as it might prove difficult to prove their cases were exceptional. He said he could see "no

useful purpose" in granting the families permission to challenge the decisions made by South Lancashire, East Lancashire and Bury and Rochdale health authorities not to fund treatment with the genetically engineered blood product, recombinant Factor VIII. Until recently, the four boys, all from the North West and aged between 5 and 9, had been treated with recombinant preferred choice of treatment by their doctors. But in Nov-

Safer haemophilia therapy

By JEREMY LAURANCE, HEALTH CORRESPONDENT

caused thousands of haemo-

philia sufferers to be infected

Factor VIII is made by

pooling blood donations; one

infected donation is enough to

contaminate a batch. As a

result, about 3,000 of this

country's 5,000 haemophilia

patients are infected with hep-

in this way is now made safe with processes designed to de-stroy all viruses, fears remain

that unknown viruses could

survive. New hepatitis viruses

have been identified, and to-

morrow's Lancet reports a

Although Factor VIII made

atitis C and 1,200 with HTV.

with HIV and hepatitis C.

ember last year the health derived products might conauthorities withdrew funding and said the boys could be equally well treated with a high purity form of human blood, saving about £200,000 a year in these four cases alone. The court heard that the three health authorities had decided that human bloodderived products were quite safe and the advantages of Factor VIII did not warrant

the extra cost. The families, one of whom attended court with their eight-year-old son, had hoped for a full judicial review of this decision, on the basis that such a blanket ruling was unfair. All four families were

new herpes virus discovered

in blood donated by a healthy

The Haemophilia Society

said: "The whole thrust of the

guidelines recommending the

recombinant version is to get a

treatment for children that

gives them a chance to live a

life free of infection." For an

adult with severe haemophilia

having three infusions of 1,000

units a week to prevent bleed-

ing, the new version would cost £73,320 a year compared

with £51,480 for the old. Most

patients in Britain are given

Factor VIII only when they bleed, reducing the cost.

man in San Francisco.

mind. "The advantages are perceived as being in the avoidance of transmission of human diseases," he said. He said the boys had switched to the new treatment in October last year but re-ceived a letter in November informing them that such advantages as there were to recombinant Factor VIII. did not warrant the extra cost of funding that treatment as "the benefit was too small for the cost". One family was particu-larly concerned because the boy's grandfather had died from hepatitis C contracted

taminate their children with human diseases, such as

strains of hepatitis, and said

they wanted the same right as

children in other parts of the

country to receive recombi-

Duncan Ouseley, QC, representing the families, told the judge that the artificially man-

ufactured blood was the preferred treatment of clinicians at the hospital in Manchester

where the boys were treated

and gave the parents peace of

nant Factor VIII.

Robert Francis, QC, for the health authorities, told the court that human blood-de-rived products had "a very good safety record".

through contaminated human

Tony Wilson, chief executive of the Haemophilia Society, said the society would continue to petition health authorities and the hospital trust involved to re-examine the ban on funding.

مكذا من رلاميل



Judith Boylan after the IRA abduction, during which her long hair was an off

IRA hacks off Catholic's hair

CHIEF IRELAND

MASKED IRA terrorists tied a Catholic girl to a lamp post before cutting her hair and covering her in paint.
Judith Boylan, 16, was re-

covering at home yesterday after her ordeal, which marked a return to the IRA paint attacks against Catholic women in the 1970s.

Just before midnight on Wednesday she was abducted by two masked men from a taxi depot in Armagh where she works with her sister. The masked men, who told her they were from the IRA, were joined in the hijacked taxi by three other men armed with iron bars. They drove the



Mullacreevie estate where the attack took place. A resident who tried to help e teenager was chased away

but went back to help her when they left. Miss Boylan said yesterday that she had feared she would be killed. I didn't know where they were taking me. I thought I was never going to

see home again," she said.

Miss Boylan said that the
gang had no reases to attack
her personally. They don't
like the people I go around Anna Brolly, a local Social

Democratic and Labour Party councillor, said: This lassie is going to suffer terribly after this. This is going back to 1972 when all these things went on here. It leaves an awful ension hanging over the

☐ The IRA yesterday admit ted that it murdered Lance Bombardier Stephen Restorick, who was shot by a sniper in Bessbrook, Co Armagh, earlier this month.

Helper at risk

A woman who helped at a fatal accident at Warboyse Cambridgeshire, has been traced by police after medical, checks showed that one of those injured in the crash had an infectious disease.

Man in court

over girl's

murder

A 30-year-old man charged

with the rape and murder of Kayleigh Ward has been remanded in custody for a week John O'Shaughnessy, of Blacon Charles and manager

of Blacon. Chester, appeared

before magistrates in the city handcuffed to a guard. No application for bail was made and reporting restric-

tions were not lifted. Yvonne

Ward, 36, the nine-year-old's mother, sat with relatives in the public gallery. The body of her daughter, who disappeared in The body of the daughter.

peared on December 19, was

found in the River Dee on:

Tuesday evening.

Crèche barrier

Ireland's Evenue Commissioners have suspended plans to impose VAT on creches at ter warnings that the tax could undermine childcare services and lead to an increase in unqualified minders.

PC charged

A policeman has appeared before Bedford magistrates charged with stealing seven guns from his station in Luton. PC Geoff Pollard, 49, was bailed to reappear on April 22

Sex case curate

A curate with a Mohican haircut and the nickname "Daz" admitted indecently assaulting a girl aged 14. The Rev Darren Champ, 36, of St Masy's in Ashford, Kent, will be sentenced on March 27.

Baby's funeral

The funeral is to be held today of a newborn baby boy found drowned in the Thames near Wandsworth Bridge last August Police appealed for the mother of the baby to come forward

Lottery ticket ban

A Safeway store in Stamford Hill, north London, has been banned from selling National Lottery trekets after Trading Standards officers found staff selling tickets to underage

Sooty sweep

A punt by Scott Taylor, 21, a scrum half for Basingstoke, in an away rugby league match against Sudbury, sent the ball down the clubhouse chimney. The match went on with the

Defence chief warns LATE NIGHT SHOPPING FRIDAY 10-8

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of 'satanic UFOs' By RUTH GLEDHILL, RELIGION CORRESPONDENT new group had been sent to

A FORMER head of the Armed Forces has helped to form a pressure group to warn of the satanic nature of many unidentified flying objects.

Admiral of the Fleet Lord

Hill-Norton, Chief of Defence Staff, 1971-73, is involved with UFO Concern out of worry that some UFO encounters are "definitely antithetical to ortho-dox Christian belief", accor-

ding to today's Church Times.
The Rev Paul Inglesby, a sub-deacon in an Orthodox church, who is secretary of UFO Concern, said the truth about UFOs has been suppressed for many years. He had never seen a UFO himself but knew many who had. "It is what they do and the messages that come from them that are anti-Christian, or demonic." A memo about the

the editors of various UFO magazines, and letters of support had been received by. among others, a professor and a prisoner, he added. Gordon Creighton, a Bud-

dhist who edits Flying Saucer Review, said the group's founders were right to be con-cerned: I do believe that the great bulk of these phenomena are what is called sepanic."
However, David Wilkinson,
a Methodist minister and an astrophysicist whose Alone in the Universe (Monarch, £7.99)

was published this month, told the Church Times that Christians had nothing to fear from alien life forms. Lord Hill-Norton, 82, con-

firmed last night that he had helped to found UFO Concern. but declined further comment.

No one is immune to the deadly dangers of alcohol

hol intoxication of lain Mills. 56, the MP for Meriden provided a salutary lesson.

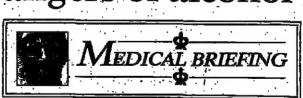
Deaths from alcohol poi-

soning after heavy drinking are not uncommon but more often occur in young people, students for instance, who have been celebrating but have yet to learn the danger of their new-found freedom in the union bar.

A few years ago Paul Knapman, the Westminster Coroner, who presided over Mr Mills's inquest, also re-turned a misadventure verdict on a journalist who had died from acute alcohol poisoning after attending a press conference. His death and that of Mr Mills, neither of whom were strangers to alcohol. show that anyone can suffer from acute alcohol intoxica-

The alcohol in Mr Mills's case was 400 milligrams in 100 millilitres of blood; five times the legal driving limit. It is assumed that he must have consumed between three quarters and a whole bottle of gin. The Medical Council on Alcoholism suggests that death is possible once the blood alcohol level reaches 400mg, and is to be expected.

A pint and a half of beer, or three pub tots of gin, would



some loss of social inhibitions. The disinhibitory effect is dependent on personality, but by 150mg of alcohol per 100 millilitres of blood, most drinkers would be over exoberant, have lost some selfcontrol, and have shurred speech. If their personality was usually argumentative, they would be aggressive and difficult.

induce in all those who are

The more accustomed someone is to drinking, the higher the blood alcohol level ecded to produce symptoms. too great a tolerance to the effects of alcohol can be a sign of over-indulgence.

Drinking ten single whiskies, or five pints of beer, would accord with a blood level of 150mg; three more whiskies and the drinker is staggering seeing double and will find that it is hard to remember the details of the evening the next day. By 400mg the drinker has become a patient, in danger and suffering from sleepiness,

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which soon gives way to coma, oblivion, and as this week's inquest has heard, sometimes death.

The blood levels in women at which the symptoms in-duced by alcohol start to occur are the same as those for men but, in general, women fare less well than men in relation to the degree of intoxication. Alcohol is absorbed more rapidly and is metapoused by the body less efficiently in women, so that they become idly and is metabolised by drunk faster, and sober up more slowly, particularly dur-ing their premenstrual phase. This disadvantage stems from the different proportions that women have of fat to

more noticeable. DR THOMAS STUTTAFORD

muscle. If women are short

and plump, the effect is even

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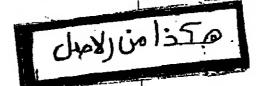
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Leading universities lose £12m in grant to under-performers

LEADING universities will have to forfeit £12 million in grant to reduce cuts at less successful institutions, the Higher Education Funding Overall funding for the 137

universities and colleges of higher education will rise by 28 per cent to £3.4 billion next year, roughly in line with inflation. But the council acted to prevent big losses at some universities, as grants were reassessed according to changes in their research ratings in the four-yearly review last

That was achieved by capoing the increases awarded to the best-performing establishments: nearly £1.7 million was taken from University College London, El million from Ox-ford and £542,000 from Imperial College, London. Of that, more than £1.7 million was redistributed to Manchester, a similar amount to Exeter and £300,000 to Aston, although all three remained among the

biggest year-on-year losers. Peter North, Vice-Chancellor of Oxford, said: "The need for the cap means that the selectivity policy is not working fully. It points to the need for better funding overall in higher education and for that we are all pinning our hopes on Sir Ron Dearing." Sir Ron is chairing the Government's review of higher education,

which reports in the summer. Professor Martin Harris, Vice-Chancellor of Manchester, blamed its reduced funding on the drop in research ratings for its medical school. Without the subsidy from other universities, the jobs of trainee doctors in Manchester's hospi-tals would be at risk, he said. The biggest annual gains went to Cranfield University

(10.3 per cent), UCL (9.5 per cent), York (7.7 per cent), Oxford (7.5 per cent), and Imperial College, London (7.4 per cent). Cambridge, which went down 7 per cent last year. gained 4 per cent this year.

Blunkett to enlist parents in reading revolution

EDUCATION EDITOR

PARENTS should spend 20 minutes a night reading with their children, Labour said yesterday at the launch of a "crusade" to raise levels of literacy over the course of two

Exeter (down 0.6 per cent).
Aston (0.5 per cent), Queen
Mary and Westfield College,
London (0.3 per cent), and
Coventry, East Anglia, Kent
and Manchester (0.1 per cent).

Professor Gareth Roberts,

chairman of the Committee of

Vice-Chancellors and Princi-

pals, said: "The funding council has had to manage a very difficult funding round. It is

clear that the money at its

Professor Jack Simmons, vice-chairman of the Associ-ation of University and Coll-

ege Lecturers, said the

settlement meant a continua-tion of last year's 2.3 per cent cash cut, a real terms reduc-

tion of 5 per cent. "We are disappointed but not sur-

prised. Universities will con-tinue to shed staff," he said.

747,000 university and higher education college places in

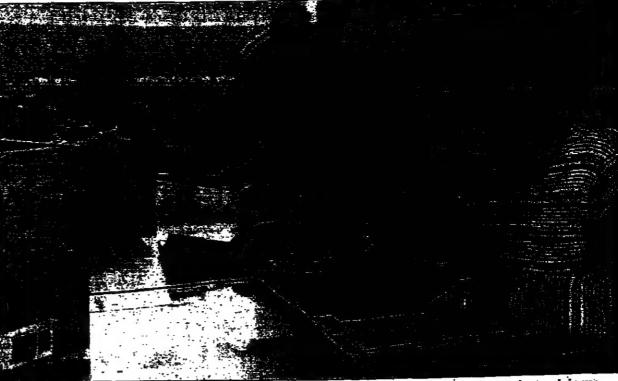
1996-97, the same as last year.

There will be funding for

David Blunkett, the Shad-ow Education and Employment Secretary, promised "a reading resolution". An hour a day would be devoted to "fast-paced, whole-class teach-ing" of reading and teachers would be retrained. A Labour government would declare 1998-99 a National Year of

priority in primary schools would be likely to lead to a wholesale revision of the national curriculum. Mr when the curriculum was revised in 2000:

A report by a literacy task force, chaired by Michael



Book time yesterday at Grafton Primary School, Holloway, north London. Labour would set a 60-minute minimum

ives at London University's Institute of Education, hildren's performance for

which mirror government policies, aim to ensure that by 2001, 80 per cent of 11-yearall children would be expected to reach this level. Pupils

less than John Patten recom-mended as Education Secretary in 1994. This time would count towards Labour's recenmendation of 30 minutes homework each evening

Trainee teachers would pend twice as long as at present learning how to teach children to read, while existing primary school teachers would embark on a "national

accusing Labour of stealing its policies. Gillian Shephard. the Education and Employ-ment Secretary, said: The work is already being done through Conservative policies that Labour has opposed. Labour in power has shown little regard for literacy, as its record in local government shows." Unions broadly wel-

If you've seal muney in a building seaders seeked the die last couple of years you have the sympathy.

Wali he course the very many are Marshay in the second Seed much spowisk Andrewski State tilen vice winds kert Stea good but thems another way.

William Control of the Control of th is fact, over the last five years all extraordinated for training DESCRIPTION OF STREET, STREET,

Fresh shellfish the catch of the week

BY ROBIN YOUNG

CONTINUING storms mean fish prices are high and likely to remain so but gigas oysters have not gone up in price although they are in prime condition and lend themselves to frying or stuffing as well as

Mussels are another good buy, slightly up in price at about £2.30 for a 2kg bag. The best buy, though, is mackerel at about £1.50 for mediumsized Scottish fish.

Advertised promotions in-

Asda: beef topside/silverside with added fat £4.38 per kg, pork chops £2.99 per kg, frozen haddock fillets crumb 800g for £1.99. lecks 45p a lb.

Budgens: pork chops £3.72 per kg.
Lincolnshire pork sautages 454g
for 99p, chunky breaded plates
fillets 320g for £1.99, ichicken

grapefruit 17p each.
Co-op (CWS): fresh beef pot roast
13.99 per leg, spare rib pork chops
12.49 per leg, mangetout 200g for
99p, closed cup mushrooms 227g

ap £1.99 a lb, back becon 200g for 99p, medium eggs 89p a doz. Harrods: porchetta al forno 100g for £1.99, French turkey sancisson 100g for £1.79, French bacon filet

£2.99, baby carrots 907g for 690 sliced green beans 907g for 99p. Kwik Sawe: red salmon halver 213g for £1.23, garden peas 300g for 24p, cut green beans 290g for 28p. Marks & Spencer: £1 off prepared joints, butter-bassed turkey breast joint 510g for £2.99, chicken breast portions four for £3.29, Yorkshire puddings six for 99p, haddock

Soggish theis four for £3.29. a lb, whole herring 99p a lb, onions 5th for 75p, grapefruit six for 49p, cameloup melous 99p each.

Safeway: pork chops eight (900g) for £3.99, British cooked ham 49p a '48b; Cafredral City mahare cheldar £2.29 a lb, leeks 49p a lb, canfillower 48p each, new potations.

Sainsbury: rump steak £5.66 per kg, boneless pork kg joins £3.32 per kg, smoked salmon 400g for £6.65, sausages £54g for 99p, rainbow trout two (550g) for £2.85.

cauliflower SSo a lb. Somerfield: boneless leg of pork £2.91 per kg, whole fresh salmon

Teses: topside of beef £4.19 per kg. fillet £1.95 a lb, jellied cels 79p a 4 lb, salmon steak £2.95 a lb, leeks

rese: British diced steak 340g for £2.29, ground pork 500g for £2.29, green Thai chicken curry 300g for £2.25, mandoras 49p a lb.



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Art's shock troops storm the bastion of tradition

A SCULPTURE incorporating nine pints of an artist's blood, a gory image of dismembered limbs and a portrait of the Moors murderer Myra Hindley are to go on show at the Royal Academy of Arts in

The works by Marc Quinn, the Chapman brothers and Marcus. Harvey respectively will be lent by the advertising millionaire Charles Saatchi, who has changed the course of British contemporary art by exhibiting such works at his north London gallery. For Royal Academicians

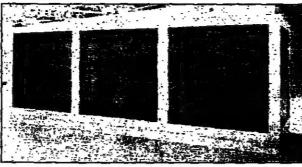
who fiercely guard the Academy's reputation as a bastion of tradition, and who were dismayed by attempts to revolu-tionise the Summer Exhibition with avant-garde to such art came as a shock.

The RA was yesterday playing down the controversy, although the very title of the show, Sensation, indicates

ih shellfishth

ch of the week

FEERENC SHOPPING



Damien Hirst's tiger shark will be among exhibits

thousands of handprints of two children. Relatives of her

victims were outraged when it

was exhibited last year at the

Saatchi Collection and called

for it to be banned. Quinn created his sculpture, called

Self, by taking a rubber mould

of his head and filling it over

several months with his blood.

The Chapmans' mutant man-

nequins conjure up violent and pornographic imagery.

that it is prepared for criti-cism. Norman Rosenthal, ex-hibitions secretary, argued Hindley portrait, created from that such works were as shocking, difficult and thought-provoking as Goya's Disasters of War and Picas-'so's Guernica were in their day. "Art is good when it perplexes us." he said.

The Academy says that apart from reaching new audi-

ences with a central location, setting and in different justa-positions will transform them.

preserved tiger shark by Da-mien Hirst, who has upset animal rights campaigners by pickling sheep and cows. The 30 artists to be featured

have been hailed as leading lights of their generation, part of an "explosion of creativity" in the visual arts that has not of Pop Art in the 1960s.

However, Peter Coker, a Royal Academician who was considered a wild figure in the 1950s with his "kitchen sink" paintings, said: "I'm very much against the RA going down that path. This has put me off my lunch. It's ghastly.

"I might be criticised for being old-fashioned and backward, but how far forward you can look I don't know. I've become a sheer cynic about these things. I've never seen a Damien Hirst work and I don't want to. I can see a dead sheep in my butcher's."

ber of the Royal Society of Portrait Painters, said: "It's about three quarters of a



Marc Quinn used his own blood for Self, left. Marcus Harvey created Myra from children's handprints

century since a lavatory pan was first shown by Duchamp as a work of art. That was the last revolution. These artists are getting on a 70-year-old establishment throttling any-thing new that might be coming up." David Lee, editor

of Art Review, said: "I can? believe it. This is another endorsement for Saatchi. It increases the value of his wants to offload them. Why should they monopolise a space which has hitherto been dedicated to a different kind of

art? They already monopolise all the publicly funded spaces

However, others were more receptive. Leonard Rosoman, represent a kind of crosssection of what is going on in

should realise the Academy is no longer just representing one form of painting or sculp ture. But it'll upset the traditionalists. It's important that

people are upset." The show runs from Sep-London. From that point of

Market keeps a weather eye on master patron

CHARLES SAATCHI bas become Britain's most influential collector of contemporary art. Such is his standing as a patron, he can make or break an artist and his activities are seen as a barometer of the

He has such a passion for art that he buys in bulk when he finds an artist he loves. He has been known to snap up as many as 20 works in one go, trusting his eye and relying on gut feeling rather than any

His insatiable appetite was first whethed by a Soi LeWitt drawing he bought in 1970 for £100. In the decades since then, he has introduced British audiences to artists such. as Jeff Koons, master of kitsch, Robert Gober, a specialist in conceptual works inspired by Duchamp, and Donald Judd, a primalist. Damien Hirst, infamous for his presentation of preserved animals, is one of his most famous home-grown discoveries, although Mr Saatchiclaims not to have strong



feelings about the nationality

of artists he follows.

The art world gets nervous when he sells, questioning his motives and accusing him of being a glorified dealer. Mr Saatchi counters that he does not buy for investment and that tastes change.

He prefers to be out of the limelight and can be perplexed by media interest, once complaining that people wanted to know more about him than the artists he showed. He has talked of wanting to share his enthusiasm for art with the public. His gallery in Boundary Road, St John's Wood, draws tens of thousands of visitors each year and he lends to galleries around the world.

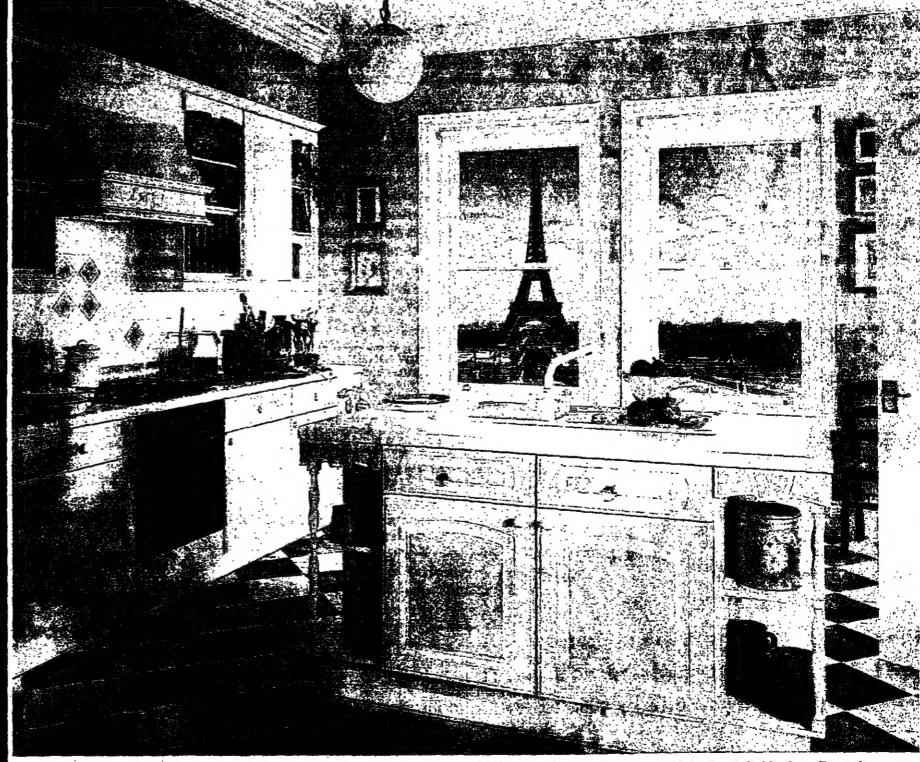
Yesterday Mr Saatchi, who is curating the Sensations exhibition at the Royal Academy of Arts with Norman Rosenthal, said: We owe it to this generation of young British artists to make the show as dynamic as possible."

He spoke of his exci that the works would be seen by a much wider audience than he could hope to attract at the Saatchi Gallery. "One of the major disappo that I've felt over the years is that Boundary Road has not pened other people's eyes in Britain to the possibility of collecting, as compared with Europe and the States." Mr Rosenthal, exhibitions

ecretary at the Royal Academy, said: "As well as highghting the vitality and inventiveness of current Britsh art, the exhibition will strate the commitment that Charles Saatchi has shown in collecting the work of these young artists."

Leading article, page 19

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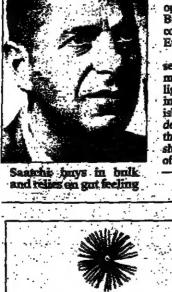
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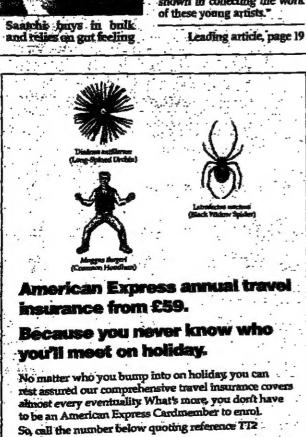
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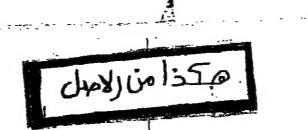
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Poll offers Major small comfort as Labour stays ahead on most key issues

Ray of economic sunlight brightens Tory outlook

at THE Tories are persuading re more people that they have the wi best policies for managing the tir economy, but are lagging well behind Labour on other imthe same as in 1992. he portant issues for the general

tle election, according to the latest ar MORI poll for The Times. The poll, undertaken last weekend, will reinforce Tory claims that they are winning ch back support on the economy. Among those saying that managing the economy will be very important in helping to ex decide their vote, 44 per cent af say the Tories have the best fo policies, and 29 per cent

March, 34 per cent said Labour, and 31 per cent the Tories. This change, coupled with the improvement in economic optimism, is the most positive

the public as a whole, the Tory and Labour ratings on managing the economy are almost

However, this has been offset by dissatisfaction with the Government's record and a time-for-a-change mood. Moreover, not only is John Major's personal rating less favourable than his was in 1992 or Margaret Thatcher's was in 1983 and 1987, but Tony

Labour is just ahead of the Tories on having the best policies on taxation. This is a big change compared with five years ago, largely because the number saying the Tories have the best policies has fallen sharply. This has resulted in an increasing number of don't knows rather than a rise

in the proportion believing that Labour has the best

Of the 14 key issues, Labour

is ahead on eight, the Tories on five and the Liberal Democrats on one. Moreover, Labour is a very long way in the lead on the three issues rated as most important, healthcare, education and unemployment. The two parties are level-pegging on law and Tories are in the lead on the economy, Europe, Northern Ireland and defence. Labour is issues such as pensions, housing, transport and trade

Europe has moved slightly up the rankings of the most important issues, from tenth to eighth over the past year, among the public as a whole. For Tory loyalists, however, it is the fourth most important, behind health, law and order, and education. But it is only seventh among those who have switched away from the Tories since 1992 and whom

the party is trying to win back. Of those regarding the issue as important, the number regarding the Tories as having the best policies has risen from 31 to 34 per cent over the period. Overall, 63 per cent of Tory loyalists believe that the party has the best policies on 18 per cent of those who have erted the Tories since 1992.

Europe is also important for

Liberal Democrat supporters. Some 15 per cent believe that cies on Europe. The issue is of well above average impor-tance in Tory/Liberal Democrat marginal seats. This ests that the Tories should emphasise Europe in those parts of the country, such as the South West, where they face a strong Liberal Democrat challenge, since its supporters are more Euroscentic than the leadership's pro-European stance. The best issue for the Liberal Democrats is protecting the environment, on which they are rated

These findings on which

(% who think issue is important) (% support for each party, among those who think

issues are very important in deciding how people will wote differ from the answers to the question asked by MORI every month about which are the most important issues facing Britain today. While the number of people regarding Europe as among the most important issues facing Britain today has risen from 29 to 35 per cent over the past mentioned by just 26 per cent

The latest poll also suggests that the Labour campaign to highlight BSE in the failed motion of censure on Douglas Hogg, the Agriculture Minister, ten days ago has made no impact. The number mentioning BSE as among the most important issue today remains at 2 per cent, as it has since last

MORI interviewed 1,940 adults face to face from Febru-

Why Soames is right to reject resignation call

right not to resign as ter. The demands for him to do so reflect a complete misun-derstanding of ministerial re-sponsibility. Of course, there are circumstances in which a minister should resign, but, as the Public Service Committee argued in its report last summer on Ministerial Accountability and Responsibility. "Proper and rigorous scrutiny and accountability may be more important in Parlia-ment's ability to correct error

than forcing resignations." There is no clear pattern. As Geoffrey Howe told the committee. The question of resignation can hardly be reduced to matters of principle. That may sound a very bizarre thing to say, but so much depends upon the scale of the the timing of the disclosure of it." In practice, a resignation has depended on whether a minister loses the support of his or her colleagues, both within the Government and on the back benches.

The idea that there was once a golden age of honour when ministers accepted responsibility for every act of the civil servants in their department is nonsense. It is now accepted that Sir Thomas Dugdale resigned as Minister of Agriculture in 1954 over the Crichel Down case not for this reason but because he lacked backbench support. (This is discussed in Conservatives and the Constitution, a thorough study by Andrew Lansley and Richard Wilson published yesterday by the Conservative 2000 Foundation).

An arcane constitutional de-bate has developed about what accountability means in practice given that no minister can conceivably know what is being done in his or her name policy. Yesterday he denied that he by a civil servant in a vast department. Sir Robin Butler, the Cabinet Secretary, has argued that ministers cannot be held responsible for acts of which they have no know-ledge, or cannot be expected to know about, but they remain accountable to Parliament for explaining what has gone wrong and how it will be put right. The Public Service Committee was dubious about the possibility of distinguishing

leade

Slamic

personally responsible, and in which he is constitutionally countable lts report said: Ministers have an obligation to respond to criticism made in Parliament in a way that seems likely to satisfy it which may include, if neces-

The revised version of Questions of Procedure for Minis-ters states that ministers must not knowingly mislead Parliament and the public and must correct any inadvertent nity". This is also included in a resolution of accountability which the Public Service Committee has proposed and which, after amendment, the Government has said it will bring to the Commons before the dissolution.

These are the yardsticks by which Mr Sources should be judged. Something very serious has obviously gone wrong at the Ministry of Defence over the use of toxic pesticides during the Gulf war. When Mr Soames learnt last Sep tember that he had been misled by officials, he in-formed the Defence Committee of the true position and in December apologised to the misleading it in a series of answers. There is no reason why. Mr Soames should be officials which are now, quite properly, being examined in a disciplinary inquiry.

The Defence Committee should be informed of the results. The main question for Mr Soames is whether he could, or should. have taken earlier action to find out what had happened. This is likely to be discussed in the Defence Committee report. However, to demand the im-Soames - as David Clark, the Shadow Defence Secretary. has done — is unjustified. Mr Clark has been indulging in the gesture politics of opposi-tion, not behaving as an aspiring minister who hopes to become Defence Secretary nine weeks today.

PETER RIDDELL

Satisfaction with the Prime Minister and Leader of the Opposition two months prior to the elections in... SATISFACTION WITH PRIME MINISTER SATISFACTION WITH LEADER OF OPPOSITION Kinnock

Labour councils chief warns of big tax rise

By JILL SHERMAN

COUNCIL tax bills could rise sharply under a Labour government, one of the party's

Sir Jeremy Beecham, who takes over as chairman of the newly merged Local Government Association from April, also gave warning of tensions between Tony Blair and local authorities if Labour exerts too much central control.

In an interview in vesterday's New Statesman, Sir.

Jeremy, former leader of Newcastle City Council, said that he would be seeking a much greater degree of local autonomy under a Labour government. I think at least 0 per cent of council spending should be raised locally. If an authority can demonstrate it is acting responsibly it will be able to carry its local population. That's what local democracy should be about. You simply can't have local democ-

racy with spending levels set

He went on: "If I was Tony

by central government.

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Blair and I wanted a shift in the proportion of money coming from local taxation I would move early: let the councils take the flak. Nobody will increase tax with enthusiasm. but there has been a hell of a of damage to services

Redwood books his place in election campaign limelight

BY ANDREW PIERCE

THE former Cabinet minister John Redwood is publishing an analysis of the single currency next month that will timulate the Europe debate in the Tory party on the eve of

the general election.

Mr Redwood, who has finalised plans for a tour of the country during the elec-tion campaign, will argue in his 80,000-word book that the only way the single currency can work is by fudging the

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ria. He will use Our Currency: Our country, published by Penguin, to launch his highprofile election campaign, organised independently of Conservative Central Office in which he will speak in 30

The Conservative 2000 Foundation has printed hun-dreds of leaflets listing ten objections to the single currency. Mr Redwood will distribute them during the cam-paign, underlining his outright opposition to the

would be rocking the boat on Europe. He said his book would support the Chancel-lor. Kenneth Clarke, whose view was that monetary union could go ahead in 1999 only if other states fudged the convergence criteria. Mr Redwood added: "A single currency would be wrong for Britain and wrong for Europe. Luxembourg is the only country that will qualify

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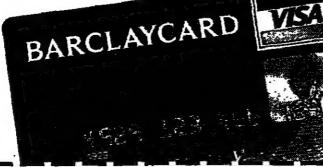
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Army tells Turkish leader to curb Islamic militants

A ROOM of angry generals will today warn Necmettin Er-bakan. Turkey's pro-Islamic Prime Minister, not to tamper with the secular pro-Western

character of the Turkish state. The confrontation will take place at a meeting of the country's military-dominated National Security Council,



Demirel: fears army

which is expected to pass a resolution urging Mr Erba-kan to crack down on Turkish Islamic militancy, including hotheads in his Welfare Party.

Although the move is purely advisory, it will be one the Prime Minister ignores at his peril. Mr Erbakan's previous political party was among those disbanded when the military staged a coup in September 1980. Then he was banned from political life for seven years.

tough and it's going to be nasty," said a close aide to Sulcyman Demirel, who as Turkish President chairs the security council. Mr Demirel, himself unseated as Prime Minister twice by the military, has given an outspoken interviews making clear his fears that the military's patience is wearing thin. Earlier in the week he indicated he would call for general elec-tions if his office had the

ver to dissolve parliament. He also gave a warning that any party campaigning on religious principles could be banned under the terms of the "If someone keeps asking

for a beating, they are bound to get one," Mr Demirel told the daily Yeni Yuz Yil, a remark aimed not just at the Government but at a badly divided Opposition which appeared to prefer exploiting tensions with the army to unity. That opposition role now appears to have fallen to the military, which stepped out of its barracks just over a month ago. Tanks paraded through the streets of Sincan, outside Ankara, whose radical Islamic Mayor had staged an anti-Israel, pro-Sharia-law meeting addressed by the Iranian Ambássador, Although the military said the exercises were planned, few



Necrnettin Erbakan is proud of his record in office but is under strong pressure to ditch his radical colleagues

Modern opinion in Turkey was outraged at the sight, repeated over and over on private television stations, of a former bodyguard of the Sin-can Mayor slapping a woman reporter to the ground. The nightmare of being hounded into an Islamic regime prompted a march by secular-minded women on the capital

Public opinion has

been alarmed at reports of large sales of pump-action rifles in pro-Welfare parts of the country and of the sight of practising Muslims.
The Prime Minister is com-Welfare supporters in the town of Kayseri wearing para-

Mr Erbakan yesterday ap-peared unrepentant over his Government's record which, he said, included lowering interest rates and keeping the economy on an even keel. He

military uniform.

described as "secular fascism" a brand of thought that refused to allow civil liberties to

ing under increasing pressure to jettison some of his more radical colleagues. Many com-mentators believe he would like to steer his party into the political centre, but is unable to abandon a confrontational style that served him through

years of political opposition. Many believe the generals

have remedies short of a coup. Several members of Tansu Ciller's True Path party, now in the ruling coalition, are people over whom the military has influence. They may well come under pressure to withdraw from that coalition.

Leading article, page 19

Orchestra to admit

NEWS IN BRIEF

women

Vicana: After months of pressure from leading cultural figures and the Austrian Govemment, the Vienna Philharmonic, one of the last male only orchestras in the world, voted yesterday to admit

The decision came after a four-hour meeting of the Phil-harmonic's musicians, most of whom also form the orchestra of the famed Vienna State Opera. The decision to admit women applies to both orchestras. (AP)

Woman jailed

Delhi: A court here sentenced a Spanish woman of 73 to 10 years' hard labour for trying to smuggle 24lb of heroin out of the country. Ruiz Guerrero Dolores had been held almost 18 months awaiting trial.(AFP)

Golden gait

Cairo: A smuggler was arrested by Egyptian customs officials who were alerted by his strange walk - he was weighed down with a belt made of 26lbs in gold bars, airport officials said. (AFP)

Greece threatens veto if EU talks to **Turkish Cypriots**

BY MICHAEL BINYON, DIPLOMATIC EDITOR

GREECE has given its European Union partners a sharp warning that it might veto the accession of all new east European entrants if EU officials insisted on including Turkish Cypriots in talks on the island's accession.

Greece was isolated earlier this week when its EU partners, led by Britain and Germany, insisted that the Turkish Cypriots would have to be consulted at some stage during the talks, due to begin at the end of this year.

in an angry reaction Theodores Pangalos, the Greek Foreign Minister, said the EU would pay a price for such a move. Athens and Nicosia insist that there should be no talks or negotiations that implied any recogni-Türkish Republic of Northern Cyprus, which is not recog- . ed by any country except

stance by Britain and Germany "criminal and foolish". He refused to agree a text for a scheduled meeting between Cyprus and the EU, and

it was therefore scrapped. The Dutch, currently holding the EU presidency, said on Wednesday that it would be politically and physically im-possible to admit Cyprus with-out progress towards fielding the island's division. The ge was reinforced by Hans Van Den Broek, the EU External Affairs Commissioner responsible for enlargewho said Brussels wanted the Turkish Cypriots

to take part in the talks. The row blew up as Sir David Hannay, Britain's spe-cial envoy to Cyprus, was having talks in Athens and Ankara Britain insists that

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ing a political solution for Cyprus must be made this year. However, after recent violence on the Green Line and heightened tension between Greece and Turkey, the two sides are now further apart than ever. Sir David will

return to Cyprus on March II. Britain, one of the guarantor powers in Cyprus, has reacted angrily to Greek in-transigence. Malcolm Rifkind, the Foreign Secretary, made clear that there was no question of admitting only the southern half of the island. He also said that the EU negotiations should, in themselves, speed a resolution; face-to-face talks ought to begin in the next

At the end of the day, we do want to see a situation where all Cyptiots are able to participate in the accession negotiations," he said. Britain had "no intention" of recognising the state, but he made clear that only a united Cyprus could be admitted as a full member of the EU.

The row could pose a big threat to two vital EU interests: enlargement to the east, and the customs union between the EU-and Turkey. Greece is already blocking EU funds aimed at offsetting Turkey's loss of revenue from tariffs lifted under the customs union. And if Athens refuses to ranty the accession of new members from central and eastern Europe, no expension can take place at all.

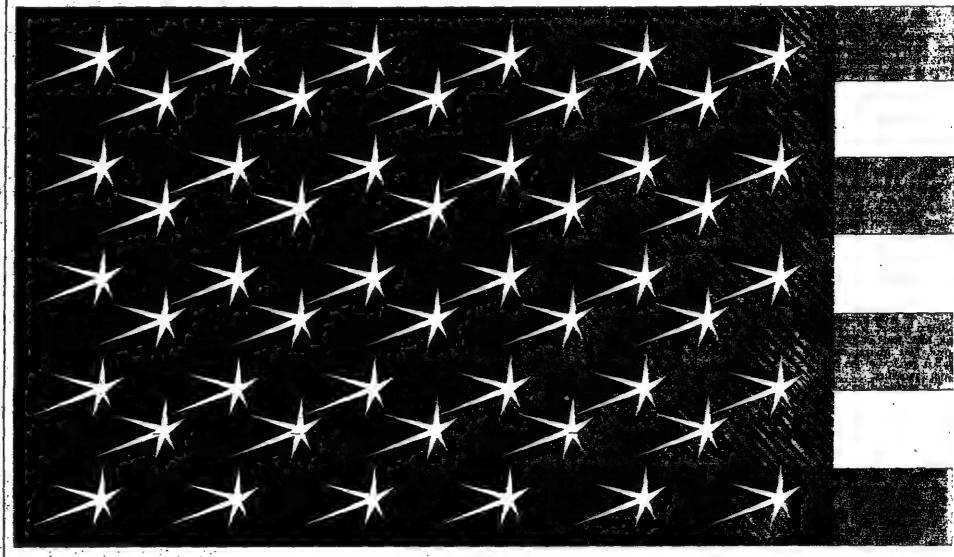
Turkey, in turn, has threatened to veto the expansion of Nato if EU funds for Ankara are still blocked. The Turks say that there is a clear link between economic and sec-

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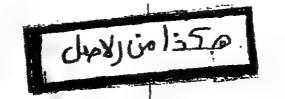
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Scrawled note speaks volumes about White House finance scandal



Clinton: ex-aide predicts "a lot of trouble" ahead

IN WASHINGTON

WITH a single flourish of his presidential pen, Bill Clinton has transformed a hazy story of shady characters and Asian money into a fundraising scandal that every American can understand.

The scrawled approval for the use of the Lincoln bedroom and other White House attractions to raise funds for his re-election has placed the President firmly at the heart of an operation that even his closest defenders find difficult to justify. George Stephanopoulos, the former Clinton aide, is just one who has swiftly acknowledged the damage of

US COMMENTARY

been in office.

these latest disclosures which he says will cause "a lot of trouble over this year for the President".

Firm critics are more forthright. The Lincoln bedroom is a national treasure. This is going to lead to more outrage at the system," said Jenniler Lamson of the grassroots lobby group, Common Cause.

An early poll published yesterday by USA Today indicated that the public is deeply cynical in its assumption that politicians from both parties are corrupt and that money is the inevitable vehicle for personal involvement is likely to erode his current approval rating of 60 per cent, the highest since he has

But there is a deeper legal strand to, the case which has greater potential to undermine Mr Clinton's position in the Oval Office, a fact that Harold ickes, the former deputy chief of staff, has so obviously exploited in his release of the documents. For months, the White House has denied that there was any price tag for spending the night at the White House, taking a flight on Air Force One, sipping coffee

In spite of the President's insistence that no one was actually promised anything in return for money, there seems no doubt that the White House was used as little more than a Democratic contributors' holiday camp in which donors such as Steven Spielberg, the film director and producer, and Barbra Streisand, the singer and actress, could write a cheque for hed and breakfast. The White House says that Mr Clinton's actions were no different from those of past presidents, both Democratic and Republican. But no chief executive since

with the President in the Map Room
or for a round of golf or a jog with
involved in the complexities of his re-election campaign.

Mr Clinton presided over an operation that may have crossed the legal barriers which are certain to be closely examined by the Justice Department and must place even greater pressure on Janet Reno, the Attorney-General, to appoint an independent prosecutor to investigate. Under American law it is illegal to solicit campaign contributions on federal property, including the offices of the White House. The congressional inquiries into the fundraising scandal, which have become the scourge of Mr Clinton's second term, must also determine ence was in some way sold to the

nighest bidders.
The White House insists it was vanity rather than any wish to influence policy that drew so many to contribute to the Democratic cause in exchange for "face time" with the President. The fact remains that the Clinton campaign has already returned more than \$1 million (£613,500) in funds received from illegal sources.

The President's own national security staff saw little difficulty in permitting access to a number of people with close links to the Chinese administration, including an arms dealer from Beijing.

President's sacked aide spilt beans on sleepover perk

AS the FBI broadened its investigations into President Clinton's fundraising debacle yesterday, the most asked question in Washington was why one of his oldest allies

had spilt the beans. The shoal of documents disclosing Mr Clinton's eagerness to reward big campaign contributors with overnight stays in the Lincoln bedroom and other White House perks came from Harold Ickes, the President's former deputy chief of staff. Mr ickes was dumped by Mr Clinton in the wake of last November's election, after a friendship of 25 years, at the insistence of Erskine Bowles, the new White House chief of staff.

Mr ickes made no secret to friends and colleagues of his anger about the way he had been treated by Mr Clinton after working tirelessly for his re-election. He learnt of his dismissal from a newspaper account that said he was too liberal to work with Republicans in the President's second term. Mr lckes felt that Mr Clinton showed less concern for him than for his bitter rival, Dick Morris, the disgraced political adviser caught rith a prostitute.

The unexpected appearance now of the ickes files, confirming how consumed the White House had been with raising money, gives rise to wide- over the "beds-for-bucks"

spread speculation that Mr ickes has exacted his revenge by following Washington's vintage political maxim of

"don't get mad, get even". Mr Ickes, a hardboiled New York lawyer, denied any such motive. "The President is my friend," he told The Washington Post. "I have enormous respect and regard for him." it had been an honour to work for him and still was - Mr ickes has the consolation prize of organising the Group of Seven summit in Denver in

Nonetheless, when Mr Ickes turned over his files last week at the request of congressional investigators, he did not seek White House permission. He simply told Clinton aides and gave them copies. The aides then rushed them out. putting their spin on them, before they leaked from Capi-

Mr ickes argued that the documents contained "titillating stuff" about money-raising but disclosed nothing improper done by Mr Clinton. "A huge amount of smoke but no fire," Mr Ickes said. As for his own role, he admitted making a bad mistake in faxing instructions on how to obtain a tax deduction to a donor who was offering a gift of \$5 mil-

lion (£3 million). While headlines continued scheme, the FBI expanded its inquiries into the more serious issue of foreign influence in Democratic fundraising exerted by China and other Asian countries which hoped thereby to influence White House

Louis Freeh, FBI Director, briefed senators on potential involvement by China, a find-ing that could lead to his requesting the appointment of an independent counsel. However, Janet Reno, the Attorney-General, repeated at a congressional hearing on the affair that she had not seen enough evidence to justify such an appointment. A key figure in the investiga

tion is Pauline Kanchanalak, a big Democratic contributor who runs the private US-Thailand Business Council. She took five business figures to coffee with Mr Clinton on the day she donated \$135,000. They included the top two executives of CP Group, a Thai conglomerate that has extensive business interests in

A federal grand jury in Washington has begun secret hearings with evidence from Rawlein Soberano of an Asian-American business association. He said that John Huang, the Democrats' chief Asian fundraiser, had asked him to launder money illegally into the Clinton campaign.



Hillary Clinton accepts her non-music Grammy award for the recording of her book It Takes a Village. She joked that it was the first time a tone-deaf person had won



Britain's Eric Clapton, who won three Grammys, and Sheryi Crow at the New York awards ceremony

Hillary Clinton and ancient Britons scoop Grammys

FROM QUENTIN LETTS IN NEW YORK

cans - living and dead - did

On a night which saw awards for the First Lady, the late Nat "King" Cole and the veteran Tony Bennett, there were prizes for The Beatles, for Free as a Bird, their 1996 song featuring material from the late John Lennon, and three for Eric Clapton for

Change the World. The oldsters' awards won respectful applause from the young things at New York's Madison Square Gardens, who clapped as if at a county cricket match.

Bryn Terfel, the Welsh baritone, landed the classical vocalist Grammy for a collection of arias. The Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra and the best choral album category. of Tom Joad.

Tower of Power!

stunt, the Grammys gave a prize to Hillary Clinton for the

recording she made of her book of cosy liberal ortho-doxy, It Takes A Village. When country singer Le-Ann Rimes, 14, won the best new artist Grammy she could barely speak for her sobs.

Best single, Eric Clapton Change the World; best album, Celine Dion, Falling into You; best male vocalist. Eric Clapton; best female vocalist, Toni Braxton. Unbreak my Heart, best pop collaboration, Nat Cole and his daughter Natalie. When I fall in Love: best traditional pop album. Tony Bennett. Here's to the Ladies; best rock album. Sheryl. Crow, Sheryl Crow, best pop group. The Beatles, Free as a Bird; best contemporary folk album.



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Clinton and

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op Grammys

Wagner soap opera rages over keys to Bayreuth

secretly supporting Hitler

TWO angry great-grandchildren of Richard Wagner have launched a new round in the long soap opera family feud over the legacy of the contro-

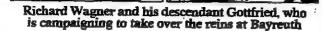
versial German composer. Their immediate target is Wolfgang Wagner, the 78year-old patriarch of the annual Bayreuth festival and edgy controller of Germany's most famous opera house. Ever since Richard died in 1883, a Wagner has run the festival; now the succession struggle is heating up. In books pubished this week. Gottfried and Nike Wagner - respectively son and niece of Welfgang accuse him of concealing his anti-Semitism and of stilling innovation with leaden productions. As far as Nike is concerned, her anthology -

entitled Über Wagner, Reclam determined notto let his father Publishing House, Stuttgart — is a kind of election manifesto. The 51-year-old Vienna-based intellectual is pushing hard to take over from her uncle. Gottfried's book - Wer Nicht mit dem Wolf Heult, Kiepenheuer and Witsch, Cologne - is more of a filial reckoning, a denunciation of an emotionally remote and

Semitism, Gottlried is an outsider in the succession stakes. Wolfgang presented his credo in an autobiography three years ago in which he barely mentioned his children and played down his intimacy with Hitler: Gottfried, however, is

lecture tour in Israel dedicated

to Richard Wagner's anti-

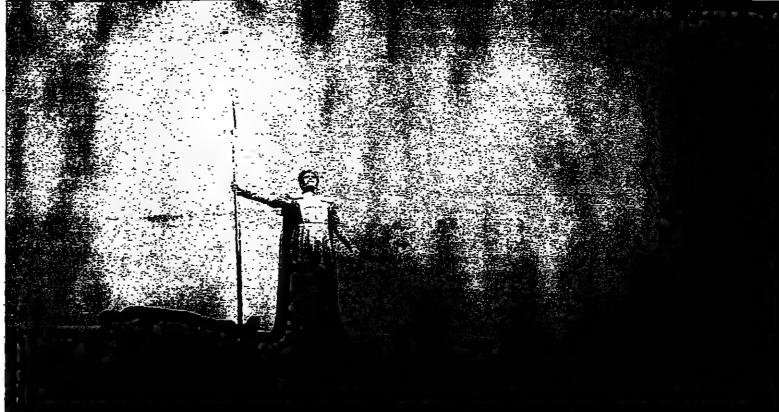


off the hook and remembers. his proud stories. In one, Wolfgang recalls sitting with his brother Wieland at Hitler's feet. "We were squatting around the fireplace and Hitler presented his vision of the cultural future - as soon as we have cleared the world of the Bolshevik-Jewish conspiracy, then you, Wieland, will be politically suspect father. Cut in charge of the Theatre of the off by Wolfgang because of a West and you, Wolfgang, will command the Theatre of the

> Wolfgang, in a rare chat with his son, explained that Hitler "had conquered unemployment and earned worldwide respect for the German economy" As for the extermination of the Jews, that was Hitler's "only mistake".

There can be few surprise left about the Wagners and their anti-Semitism. Richard Wagner's 1850 essay Jewry in Music has been excused as a mere reflection of 19th-century anti-Semitism, but it is pep pered with snide remarks about Jews.

The significance of Gottfried's latest examples of anti-Semitic comments is that Wolfgang has built up his reputation as the man who made a clean break with the past. Conductors of Jewish such as Daniel Barenboim and James Levine, were invited to Bayreuth, and Wolfgang's stolid productions



Wotan, the archetypal Wagnerian role, as portrayed at Bayreuth in the postwar years by the great German bass-baritone, Hans Hotter

avolded political controversy. Wagner's anti-Semitism does not play a big part in Nike's book, though it helps her cause to have Wolfgang de-molished in public. She is the daughter of Wieland whom most critics seem to agree had much more artistic talent than Wolfgang. She accuses her uncle of making a witches' mountain (a Blocksberg) out of

Bayreuth on which the ghosts

of the past are summoned again and again. Nike, whose qualifications are those of a musical critic rather than director, proposed that the Wagner festival be staged every two years instead of annually to allow new ideas to develop.

The conventional comparison of the Bayreuth succession contest is with the antics of the Ewing family in the Dallas soap opera. The family, and the plot, are indeed tangled. Wolfgang considers both Nike and her brother, Wolf-Siegfried (a talented stage director), to be disloyal and unworthy of Bayreuth. Even as a child Gottfried was banned from playing with

Eva, Wolfgang's daughter by his first marriage, is a talent scout for the Metropolishe, too, is not considered a worthy successor by Wolfgang. Gottfried's lasting concern with Wagner's anti-Semitism seems to exclude him. The most likely member of the family to take over after Wolfgang's death is his second wife, Gudrun.

Bayreuth need not be controlled by a Wagner. The is managed by a

elected board. But five out of 24 seats are reserved for Wagner family members and they, or rather Wolfgang, usually carry the day. His rule is crumbling, however, and like King Lear the king of Bayreuth is stumbling on blindly. banishing his children, disinheriting and pronouncing curses. This, say Wagnerians, will be the year that the fourth

Palestinians start Jerusalem protests

FROM CHRISTOPHER WALKER IN HAR HOMA .

PALESTINIANS yesterday launched the first of a series of protests against Israel's decision to build 6,500 Jewish thomes on a hillside in occupied east Jerusalem which many fear will culminate in widespread bloodshed when buildozers begin work next

The march, to be followed today by attempts to hold a protest session of Muslim Friday prayers at the spot, was matched by a growing diplo-matic offensive against Israel

terror attacks by Hamas, the leading member of the ruling Islamic group behind the suicide bombs that have claimed scores of Jewish lives.

As the Israeli Army completed preparations for a retaliation programme codenamed Operation Field of Thorns, to be put into effect in the event of violent Palestinian right-wing Mayor of Jerusalem, gave a defiant press-conference on a rocky hillside

overlooking Har Homa. "If someone believes that: any Palestinian violence, he is v the 1967 war.

Likud party and a close confidant of Binyamin Netanyahu. the Prime Minister, said. "Anyone who will use guns in opposition to us will make the mistake of his life. It will blow up the entire peace process."

Leading the Arab condemnation of Israel's decision to reaction. Ehud Olmert, the start building on Har Homa as soon as the last legal appeals against the construction project are over was King Husain of Jordan, the country that ruled over the hill in there is not going to be an equestion until it was sonappropriate israeli reaction to quered by the Israelis during

Prince Hassan cancelled a visit to Tel Aviv planned for tomorrow in protest, told Mr Netanyahu in a letter that the move "could shake confidence in the peace process and arouse feelings of anger that would create violence and threaten the process of peace

☐ Shooting move: An Israeli military court ruled yesterday that Noam Friedman, 22, a soldier who shot and wounded seven Palestinians in Hebron last month, be treated in a psychiatric hospital and not jailed. (Reuter)

Pentagon 'UFO' site revealed on film

THE Pentagon is bracing itself for calls from conspiracy theorists after news that Area 51, a top-secret site where the American Government tests stealth aircraft and is alleged to have held captured UFOs, has been revealed on camera (Anjana Ahuja writes)

The film, made in 1964, does not record details of the site but shows a scientist chalking on a blackboard the phrase

"move out to Area 51". The authorities have never acknowledged the site, and

often deny its existence.

The footage was uncovered by Hugh McDaid while shooting Robot Warriors. a documentary on unmanned aircraft. According to Mr McDaid, the film was a top-secret briefing film for military and

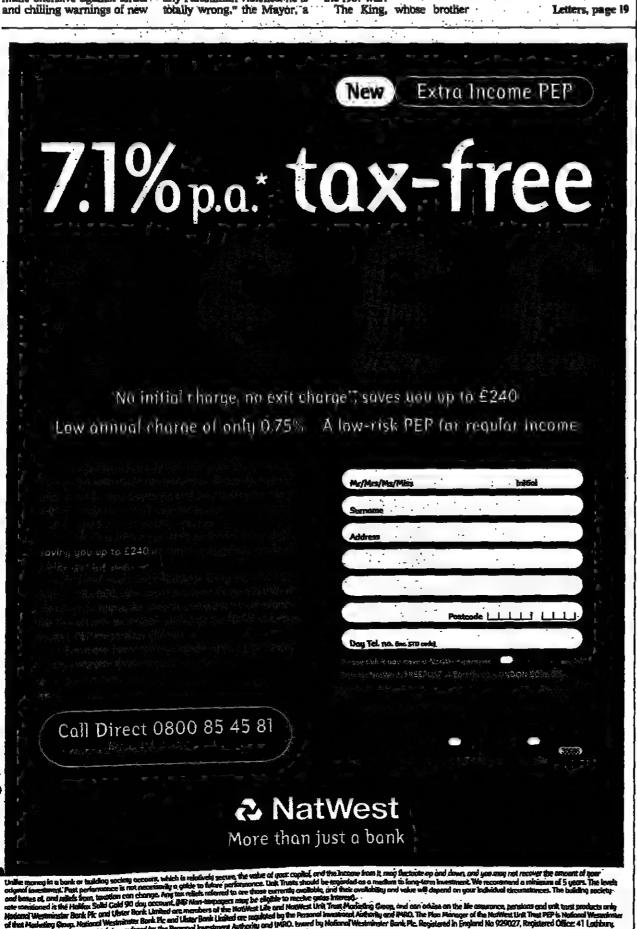
intelligence personnel. The scientist

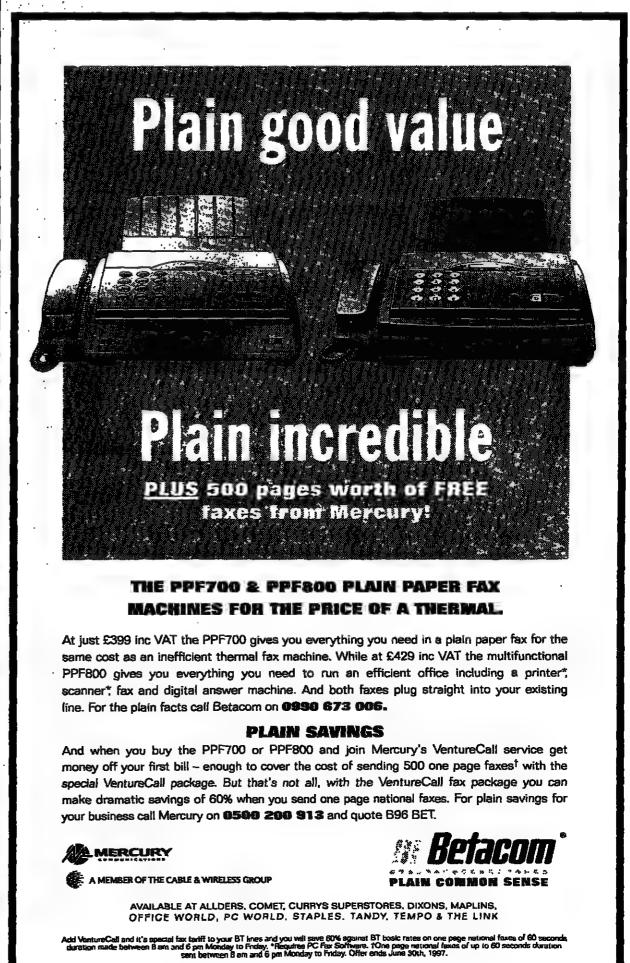
shown writing on the blackboard was

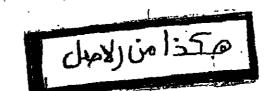
Clarence "Kelly" Johnson, who designed the Lockheed U2 spy plane.

The refusal of the USAF to confirm or

deny anything regarding the site has fuelled speculation that it is a cover for something more sinister than testing new aircraft. Some believe the US Government has captured flying saucers and used the base to conduct experiments on the vehicles and their inhabitants.







Sleaze allegations grow as French TV chief is charged

From Adam Sage in paris

favours in return. France has

since adopted strict laws de-signed to limit political financ-

ing, although many analysts believe that the parties still

manage to get around them.

There have also been sug-

estions in the media that

Bouygues used Cerail to win

business contracts with under-

the table payments. At least

some of the Fr5 million was

channeled into an account in

Madrid. Both M Le Lay and

M Bouygues deny the charges,

saying they knew nothing of

The affair is embarrassing

for Bouygues, a household name in France, which em-ploys 70,000 people, and for its

most prominent subsidiary,

TFI. But it is certain to be

welcomed by the extreme right-wing National Front,

which owes its electoral suc-

the funds paid to Cerail.

FRANCE'S leading television station, TF1, was caught up in corruption allegations yesterday as its chairman was charged with misuse of corporate funds.

In the latest sleaze scandal to hit French public life, Patrick Le Lay was questioned at length by the Versailles-based magistrate, Jean-Marie Charpier, who is investigating claims that TFI diverted

money into a secret fund.

M Le Lay was charged along with one of France's leading industrialists, Martin Bouygues, chairman of the construction group, Bouygues, which owns TFI. construction

The accusations will fuel the suspicion, shared by many French people, that the coun-try's elite is untrustworthy and incompetent. The claims follow a long list of corruption allegations against leading politicians, media figures and ndustrialists.

M Charpier suspects that Bouygues companies paid up to Fr5 million (E550,000) into Cerail, a fictitious consultancy, run by Jacques Dupuydauby, the company's former vice-chairman, between 1987 and 1993. It is not known what the secret fund was used for but there has been press speculation that it went to political parties.

In the late 1980s and early 1990s it was commonplace for leading French firms to make clandestine donations to political parties in the hope — usually fulfilled — of receiving France's rulers are "all

corrupt".
The extremist movement tells its white working class electorate that they are the victims of an egotistical elite preoccupied with making money, promoting foreign interests and hiding the truth.

The television lies, is the slown on one of the front's slogan on one of the Front's

posters.
TFI, an independent chan-nel, dominates French tele-vision, consistently winning bigger audiences than its publidy-owned rivals, France 2 and France 3. Bouygues: his company owns television station

This is not the first time it has been in legal trouble. Two years ago M Le Lay was questioned over claims that his station bribed officials to be allowed to broadcast the

mational lottery results. He was released without charge.

M Bouygues was charged with the misuse of corporate funds in 1995 in connection with an investigation late. with an investigation into political financing.

Patrick Poivre d'Arvor, TFI's best-known news pre-senter, was found guilty last year of receiving illegal funds after an inquiry into the same

☐ Marseilles: A court yester-day refused to grant Bernard Taple, the bankrupt business-man and former football boss. day release from prison. wrecking his attempt to star in a second film. Taple appeared last year in Claude Lelouch's Hommes Femmes: Mode d'Emploi. (Reuter)



The moon shows through the cables on Sydney's Centrepoint as Alain Robert climbs



Swoop by police foils daredevil climber

PROM REUTER

A FRENCH "spiderman" who has climbed some of the world's tallest structures including London's Canary Wharf tower - was caught in a police web yesterday half way up Sydney's Centrepoint

Tower. Alain Robert, 34, a rock climber from southern France, crawled up the tower's twisted outer cables soon after dawn. But as a police helicopter circled overhead, he was nabbed as he passed a maintenance platform halfway up the 1,066ft tower, Australia's

tallest building.
Police handcuffed him and took him away. He is to appear in court today charged with illegally climbing a

building.

M Robert has scaled high
buildings around the world,
including the Eiffel Tower, the Golden Gate Bridge and Hong Kong's Far East Fi-

Gaullists try to rein in power of MEPs

pal bre attack

FRANCE moved yesterday to rein in the European Parliament after President Chirac denounced MEPs for interfering in the country's internal

The initiative came after

widespread anger about a

European Parliament resolution urging Paris to abandon an immigration Bill. In a radio interview yesterday. Herve de Charette, the Foreign Minister, said he wanted his European partners to review the Parliament's powers. His comments will delight the Eurosceptic wing of the ruling Gaullist movement, but anger Bonn, which wants to give the European Parliament greater influence. M de Charette said: "The Parliament must exercise its powers, but

only those, and not interfere in the French process." On Wednesday, he had provoked a diplomatic incident when he said that the legislature was not yet a parliament worthy José-Maria Gil Robles, the European Parliament's President, who is a Spanish conservative, promptly cancelled a meeting with M de Charette. The MEP had already found

himself on the receiving end of one of M Chirac's celebrated outbursts this week. At what was supposed to be an informal discussion, the French President harangued Señor Gil Robles over "a manifest interference in France's internal affairs".

His anger came after Elisabeth Guigou, France's Socialist former European Afpersuaded the Parliament to condemn Paris's plans to crack down on illegal immigration. The Government's proposals are at the centre a national debate in France. with actors and intellectuals leading demonstations over what they denounce as a zenophobic Bill. The actress Catherine Deneuve was among the public figures who said they would rather break the law

than comply with it.

M Chirac had stayed silent during the protests, but was offended when the European Parliament attacked the immigration proposals in a resolution on "racism, xenophobia and the extreme Right"

12 8 14 1 A

7,000 mourn murder victims

BY ADAM SAGE

ALAIN JUPPÉ, the French Prime Minister, was among 7,000 mourners yesterday at the funeral for four young women murdered in northern France this month. President Chirac sent a wreath.

The ceremony brought the women's home town of Bouclosed, children stood for a

Ruffin, 20, her sister Amélie, 17, Peggy Merlin, 20, and her sister Audrey, 17.

The four were kidnapped, beaten, raped and murdered after an evening at a carnival two weeks ago. Their bodies were discovered last Friday, buried a beach near Boulogne.

Two scrap-iron merchants recently released from prison, Jean-Michel Jourdain, 34, and his brother Jean-Louis, 38.

murders. They deny the allegations, each saying the other was responsible. As details of the women's

ordeal have been disclosed, there have been protest marches and petitions calling for a return of the death penalty. Yesterday, however, mourners respected a call for calm from Laure Lamotte, adoptive mother of the Ruffin sisters. "I want reflection and prayer worthy of the girls,"





The nice surprise is the prices.

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US Army

'pursuing

witch-hunt

over gays' FROM IAN BRODIE

MORE homosexuals and les-

bians are being discharged from the US armed forces under President Clinton's

"don't ask, don't tell" policy than before it came into effect.

The Servicemembers Legal

providing lawyers for military personnel accused of homo-

sexuality, said that the spirit of

the law was being broken by a

deliberate pattern of witch-

hunts throughout the ranks,

including seizures of diaries

and threats of prison against

those accused unless they be-

trayed other gays.

Last year 850 people were

discharged by the Pentagon

for homosexual activities, compared with 682 in 1993

when there was still officially

mined to keep the ban. The

new law continues to ban gays

a study showed yesterday.



oup by ice fuji, redevil



FROM MARK FULLER IN AMSTERDAM

THE House of Orange, one of the most popular and placid monarchies in Europe, is facing a republican assault from a powerful group of Dutch businessmen and notables. Fifteen prominent Dutch-

men, including a former gov-ernment minister and heads of major financial institutions, have formed a secret association to promote the republican cause, breaking the country's cast-iron taboo on criticising the Royal Family, according to De Volkskrant newspaper. At least five of them have received bonours from Queen Beatrix and one was a former member of a royal commission.

Led by Pierre Vinken, the former chairman of Reed Elsevier, the Anglo-Dutch publishing group, the Repubikeins Genootschap believes "a hereditary monarchy, with a divine right to rule has no place in a political democracy", according to excerpts from. the association's documents.

Founded last autumn, the association had intended to wait at least two years before going public, waiting until the monarchy "overestimates lits position and makes a fatal

"A republican state is the only major taboo left in The Netherlands," Mr Vinken wrote in a letter on the association's purpose. "Politicians, both on the left and right, are without exception either monarchists or dare not say they are otherwise. Against this background, it is vital the Republikeths Genootschap exists to give a clear if weak signal that will perhaps

cause younger generations to think again about the monarchy]." Several of the association's members have tried to play down its purpose, saying it was just a dining and discussion group. Three others, including Pieter Korteweg, head of Roberto, Europe's higoest investment food biggest investment fund group, have resigned their

A spokesman for the House of Orange declined detailed comment on the association, but said: "Everybody in The Netherlands has the freedom to express their opinions and to hold discussion meetings." Nevertheless, the revelation

of the association's existence and its high-profile members comes at a very sensitive time for Queen Beatrix, who is still trying to paper over the cracks caused by a recent row about her political influence.

She was accused of overstepping the constitutional mark last autumn by allegedly forcing the removal of the



Beatrix lost popularity

Dutch Ambassador to South Africa because he was living with a woman who was not his wife. It was also widely assumed that she was behind the recent Culture Ministry decision to withdraw state subsidies from a play which satirised the Royal Family.

Under the constitution, the Queen should be even more remote from politics than the British monarch. But Queen Beatrix, 59, affectionately referred to as Trix by the public. has never hidden her strong moral views. She is opposed to homosexual marriage, which parliament wants to legalise, is a fervent environmentalist, and regularly urges the country to be more tolerant of the advantaged.

During almost 17 years on the throne, she has protected the House of Orange from the public eye better than any of her European counterparts, But now the shield appears to be disintegrating, not least because of the antics of Crown Prince Willem-Alexander.

The Queen's popularity she regularly scores 80 per cent in the poils - has been founded on a down-to-earth regal style, endearing herself to the public by being a keen cyclist and planting trees. Willem-Alexander, the first male heir to the throne in 116 years, has been involved in romantic exploits with commoners and seems to prefer fast cars, planes and speedskating to royal duties. To-gether with the recent raiding over of old scandals, his behaviour has reinforced republican feelings. The press has also become aggressive.



Prince praises British aid workers during visit to Bangladeshi slum

HUNDREDS of Bangladeshi shum dwellers turned out to see the Prince of Wales yesterday as he witnessed at first hand the conditions in which thousands of the country's poorest live during a visit to Tikkapara outside Dhaka.

The Prince, on the second day of a three-day visit to the country - his first - was driven down a bumpy mud and brick road to Tikkapara to see a project at the shanty town funded by ActionAid the British charity of which

Picking his way through the rubbish, he praised the efforts of the relief workers, saying, "I realise what an enormous problem and huge challenge it is in this part of the world"

They told him that the region's slumdwellers often live six to a house. Their homes are usually no more than two-room huts cobbled together from bamboo straws, old plastic sheeting and rags, and act as slim protection against the floods and cyclones that frequently hit the

He also heard about the

With up to 20 families sometimes sharing a single lava-tory, and limited supplies of clean, piped water, disease Is

Prince Charles later visited Sylhet, a remote tea-growing area 210 miles from Dhaka, where he told a reception given by the town council: "I feel very much at bome here as a result of a large number of people from Sylhet who are now residents in Britain. Officials say about 300,000 people from Sylhet have set-

no tolerance for homosexuals and the armed forces were larger.
The "don't ask, don't rell" policy was a shaky compromise between Mr Clinton, who had campaigned on a promise to end the ban on homosexuals in the services, and those in the Pentagon and Congress who were deter-

skirts. Nargis Islam, a Sylhet resident whose daughter lives in uniform, but bars the active hunting down of them by in London, said about 90 per military commanders.
Yet that is still happening, cent of families in Sylhet have according to yesterday's re-port, it said the new policy had one or more relatives living in Britain and that the station would help them to keep in evolved into a Machiavellian system where the end justified Before leaving Dhaka, where he had arrived late on any means of "ferreting out all gay men and women who Wednesday, the Prince had talks with President Shahabuddin at the Bangserve our country". Dis-charges fell disproportionately

station built by British

Telecom on the town's out-

abhaban Presidential Palace

and with Sheikh Hasina

Wajed, the Prime Minister.

third of the dismissals. Women were often accused of being lesbians after rebulfing male sexual advances or reporting sexual abuse, the William Cohen, US Defence Secretary, denied that the growing number of dismissals warranted a change in policy.

hard on women who make up

13 per cent of the armed forces

but accounted for nearly a

He promised, though, that if he found there was active pursuit and prosecution of gays, it would be halted. In Congress, 36 members demanded that he take immediate action to protect gavs and lesbians from harassment.

Defence chief faces sack after Yeltsin orders end to

Moscow: Political speculation about an expected government reshuffle intensified in Moscow yes-terday (Robin Lodge writes). The position of the Defence Minister appeared the most precarious after President Yeltsin's call this week for

Mr Yeltsin, who earlier had castigated Viktor Chernomyrdin,

deal with the problem of nonpayment of state wages and pen-sions, turned his ire on Wednesday night on Igor Rodionov, the Defence Minister, ordering him to "stop whining and get on with implementing long-awaited military reforms.

The press indulged in much speculation yesterday about the likelihood of ministerial dismissals. with many focusing on General Rodionov and Viktor Ilyushin, a former Yeltsin aide promoted last year to First Deputy Prime Minister with special responsibility for social "Ilyushin is virtually a political corpse," the Moscow daily Moskovsky Komsomolets wrote, citing unnamed sources within the

fence Minister was prompted by clashes between General Rodionov and Yuri Baturin, head of the Defence Council, over how best to deal with a catastrophic decline in Russia's armed forces. General Baturin has called for radical defence cuts as a first step to reforms; General Rodionov is demanding more government funds to guarantee living standards of servicemen

and restore morale. He has also accused General Baturin of playing down the problem.

The Kremlin reprimanded the Defence Minister for speaking out and called on the two men to work together. "The President knows how difficult it is now for the men in epaulettes. But whining will not help matters; concrete actions are needed," it said in a statement. Mr

Yeltsin is due to give a state of the nation address next Thursday, during which he is expected to announce any changes in the Government

Earlier this week there were rumours that Mr Chernomyrdin was himself under threat, but it is widely felt that his position bolstered by four years of unswerving loyalty to Mr Yeltsin - is secure.

TIMES 10 st inspire

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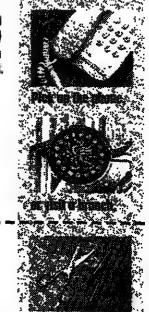
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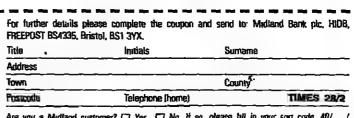
Ray likes to take it easy. Whether he's fishing or

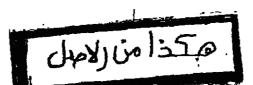
planning his savings, Ray doesn't want to worry about anything. That's why he asked for Midland's brochure on HIDB (High Interest Deposit Bond). It's as safe as any savings account but it lets

ent. He could have chosen a six month plan but flav. true to form, isn't in that much of a hurry









When fashion designers' parties are the measure of a capital's cool



Naomi Campbell with Joaquim Cortes at the Miu Miu party, which was held at The Naval and Military Club in Piccadilly during London Fashion Week

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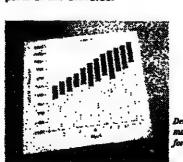
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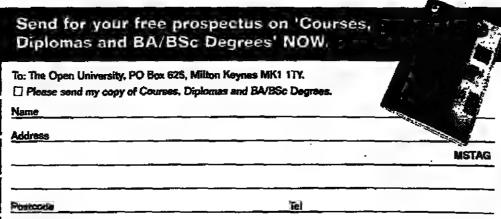
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Exhausted and all partied out - at the end of London Fashion Week, Style Editor Grace Bradberry finds designers just want to have fun

Britannia" issue, London's resurgence as a fashion capital has been a

This month's Vanity Fair rams home the message with the original strapline "London Swings Again" below a picture of Patsy Kensit in a black bra. and Liam Gallagher, swathed in a Union Jack and showing

But no matter how much hyperbole enters the headlines, nor how outlandish the venue for Alexander McOueen's catwalk show there can only be one true barometer of a capital's cool -the parties.

The pace was set last season by the American designer Donna Karan, who blew half a million pounds, converting a Shepherds Bush warehouse into the sort of place Karan would choose to live - all monotone Moroccan with hundreds of candles and cream floor cushions.

But there has been nothing much since. The opening of Calvin Klein's Bond Street store is still months away, and Versace's Rock And Royalty party, which might have upstaged anything in London Fashion Week, was abandoned when Diana, Princess of Wales, took umbrage at the contents of the accompanying book. for which she had written a forword, and refused

to attend. Many in the fashion world will have breathed a sigh of relief that Versace's £100-aticket bash was cancelled. Not only is Versace renowned for throwing thoroughly tacky parties, but they might also have been forced to pay - and there is nothing that industry

insiders loathe more. The perfect party in the eyes of the fashion world wasprobably that thrown by Donna Karan. She carefully delineated the status of its members, inviting-"front row" fashion editors to an intimate dinner for 300, where they could mingle with celebrities and supermodels, before 500 of their less distinguished peers were allowed in for the after-dinner party.

By contrast, the Miu Miu party on Sunday, which was the event of London Fashion Week, was superficially a democratic affair. The host, Miuccia Prada, was once a member of the Italian Communist Party, and is what counts in fashion as an "intellectual. She is famous for leading the move away from obvious status symbols - the gold-chained Chanel handbag to less obvious ones - her

own black nylon bags, bearing a discreet but instantly recognisable triangle logo. Her party for 1,000, held at The In and Out Club (The Naval and Military Club) in Piccadilly, was planned as the very antithesis of a Versace bash. The theme was a debutante's first party - though how many debutantes' parents are now prepared to spend £200,000 moving in antique furniture, planting tvy in the courtyard and flying a cocktail mixer in from New York is questionable.
About 600 of the guests were

from the fashion industry. Vivienne Westwood, whose show had preceded Miu Miu, looked especially annue, hav-ing robbed Prada of publicity by using 13-year-olds on the

The remaining 400 guests were friends of Miuccia — a gaggle of Italians who made their way swiftly to the restaurant onie drawn iargely from the film and music industries. Naomi Campbell arrived with her current boyfriend, the fiamenco dancer Josquim Cortes, and again disappeared into the restaurant where she dined with Mincola.

indeed, as celebrities arrived, they just as soon disarpeared into the dining room. It was only when lowlier guests tried to penetrate this inner sanctum that the flawed nature of democracy became clear. Anxious to please the VIPs, the maitre d', borrowed from the London restaurant. Quo Vadis, turned most others

'Fashion parties should chill out - I don't mean with drugs or alcohol people should loosen up and talk

avery, suggesting they return after midnight on the offchance that a table might become free.

to each other'

Later in the evening, the Prada team themselves he came victims of celebrity hauthe red smoking-room, sur-rounded himself with bodyguards, and refused to let any

of them come near. This, and the impossibility of securing a table, provided ample topics of conversation when alternative topics - was that Damien Hirst? (it was); had the McQueen ticket arrived yet? (it hadn't); had the dress been bought at discount or cost price? (no industry insider ever pays the full whack) - had been exhausted.

Conversation was aided by the huge supply of alcohol. This was not an event at which to order spritzers. Instead, the evening virtually swam in Louis Roederer champagne, washed down with pink Litchfield gin, Mai Tais and Bourbon Sours. Upstairs, just before the dancefloor (timy fashion people don't dance), was the cocktail bar, manned by Eugene, flown in speciallyfrom the Pravda bar in New York. The speciality was something called Carol Channing (Mad About Millie), vodkabased, like all Eugene's cocktails, mixed with raspberry, which would appear to be the new cranberry juice.

Contrary to what you might think, it is not the done thing to wear Min Min to the Min Min

mainline Prada — one guest shown on the catwalk - or azonymous black or grey slip dresses, whose origins would DC TCCOSTISSION

cognoscenti. Just in cast anyone might fail to recognise her, Tara Palmer-Tomkinson wore her trademark black dress with the cutaway front, as seen at the head of her Sunday Times cohimn. She wore it again on Tuesday night to shoe designer Jimmy Choo's soiree at the Wellington Club in

Held on the same night as the Antonio Berardi show, the Berardi party, another bash thrown by the Spanish design er Amaya Arzuaga, and the opening of the Antonio Lopez show at the Royal College of Art, Jimmy's party faced some pretty stiff competition.

Tamara Beckwith was one of the few to wear Choo's shoes Tara and her friend Lucy Sykes, a stylist in New York, confessed that they had meant too disorganised.

Mandy Smith, who had arrived from the Jerry Maguire premiere, declared that wearing the designer's own abel was "naff", before add ing that she had preferred the evious party: "Pashion parties should chill out and I don't mean with drugs and alcohol people should loosen up and talk to each other."

takes time, and those came victims of celebrity han-ten when The Artist Formerly ten don't stay long. Known As Prince settled into Artistensen, who modelled in the Antonio Berardi show, was barely at his party in Legends nightclub. Mayfair, long enough to kiss a few make-up artists. But then, the Berardi party was not a classic fashion event after the first free brandy (the designer is sponsored by Courvoisier) you actually had to pay for drinks. A tonic water alone cost £1.80, a bottle of

> And so the week goes on. On Wednesday night the Irish designer John Rocha threw a party, last night Jasper Conran held a small soirée for his friends. Tonight Vogue rounds off the week with a large bash at Nobu, in the fashion crowd's favourite new hotel. The Metropolitan on Old Park Lane. It is an event ~ V only for the brave, with a dress code that states, unequivocally, "glamorous".

But then if Britain's most influential fashion magazine is to support the British fash. ion industry, it could do worse than create a desperate need. for dresses that would have no place in any other walk of life.





Sam Mendes on directing, learnt by experience and observation: "It combines amateur psychology, sports coaching, visual art. You become an intellectual and visual magpie"

Theatre's hot ticket

t is tempting to see Sam Mendes, the theatre's blue-eyed wunderkind, as the bachelor thirtysomething hero of Company, the Stephen Sondheim musi-cal he directed, to be televised in Performance on BBC2 tomorrow night) who observes his married friends and reflects on the difficulty of commitment, and his own loneliness. Mendes has no aversion to marriage, but has avoided it so far. When he and Jane Horrocks were an item, and I interviewed Jane, she said: "Do we ave ter tark about Sam?" Not the words of an imminent bride, I thought. That is now over, but they remain good friends.

it would be hard not to be friends with Sam, a young man (3i) full of charm and quick intelligence. His meteoric success cannot be due entirely to luck, steely ambiwith people, too.

The name Mendes is Portuguese. His forefathers sailed to Trinidad in a banana boat from Madeira, and his grandfather, the novelist Alfred Mendes, started the literary magazine The Beacon with V. S. Naipaul and C. R. James. Alfred, educated at the Quaker Friends' School in Saffron Walden, was a character, a carouser, a raconteur, a womaniser. Sam, browsing with his father in a secondhand bookshop once, found, in

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24,537-6 ******** theatre directors, but from the beginning he has made his own luck captivated by Helen Mirren as Mendes says it was difficult to THE Cleopatra in her excitingly diaphanous gown. The the-**VALERIE**

atre became a stabilising influ-

ence in a rather unstable

childhood." (His parents di-

But young Sam fixed his own luck: in his gap year he

worked at the Guggenheim in

Venice, but by the time he arrived at Peterhouse; Cam-

vorced when he was five:)

GROVE INTERVIEW

Owen Rutter's If. Crab No. Walk A Traveller in the West Indies, seven pages on his grandfather who, Rutter said, "introduced me to every broth-el in Port of Spain". "He was

still the same at 80," Sam says. When Sam was 14, his mother took him from Oxford. where he attended Magdalen College School, to Stratford to see his O-level set text. The Merchant of Venice with David Suchet. His mother says he never spoke to her at all that day: "I was uncomfortable at 14, an only child out at the theatre with my mother, having to wear a tie, the badge of slavery." Later he sat on the floor at The Other Place,

bridge ("a very tie-wearing college") he'd switched to English. He put on a college production of a David Halliwell play and knew by directing would be his game. Having graduated with a first, he was given a job at

Chichester by John Gage, gratefully mopping the stage for £50 a week and being allowed to direct Chekhov's Swansong and the Bear and The Marriage Proposal, for one night only. "I tried so hard to make it work, I kept the cast at it way into the night." Rave reviews ensued. Gage gave him, at 23, the newly built Minerva Theatre to play with.

o he became "this wonderful new young chap Sam Mendes". He did London Assurance with Paul Eddington. The Cherry Orchard with Judi Dench — casting people he had worshipped on television. He directed Kean with Derek Jacobi; Ralph Fiennes and Amanda Root in Troilus and Cressida for the RSC. Then along came The Rise and Fall of Little Voice.

This quirky concoction sprang from Jane Horrocks's gift for impersonating singers in a voice that erupted unnervingly from a flat-chested waif. Michael Codron sent Jim Cartwright's embryo script to Mendes; rehearsals were chaotic, as the play was written while they worked, and

rein in. It remains - though about 20 minutes too long one of those unforgettable theatrical events of the 1990s.

I first met Jane in the form of a cassette tape. 'Hello Sam,' (he mimicks Jane Horrocks's broad Lancashire). This is my tape. Here's Judy Garland... This is Billie Holliday ... Piaf ... Gracie Fields.' Laughing the whole time." They had

supper in this very restaurant the Mezzanine at the National) and after "circling round each other warily" were a couple by the time he directed her as Sally Bowies in Cabaret. They nev-

er shared a home, but Mendes took Jane to Trinidad to meet his relations and she took him to Rawtenstall, Lancashire, to meet hers. It was not such a culture shock: he'd lived in Manchester when his father taught English at the university, and his

Mancunian. But the two were chalk and cheese. Jane Horrocks is not really like Ab Fab's Bubble, but she is no great reader, while Sam's cottage, a former almshouse near Oxford, is lined with books.

He bought that after going commercial: he makes "absurd" sums of money from his long-running Oliver! at the Palladium. On the other hand, in his mid-twenties he directed at three of the country's major companies (the National, the RSC and the Young Vict in one year for a total of £15,000.

There is a mystique about the bizarre craft of directing. It is invisible but noticeable, and cannot be taught except by experience and observation.

and the new bestseller Andrew Sam Mendes is young, sexy, and already one of our most accomplished Miller can. Mendes's next show will be a musical, The Fbr., a dark political comedy from New York: expect more House Full boards to go up. "It combines amateur psychology, sports coaching, visual Meanwhile tomorrow night art. You become an intellectu-

viewers can see, on BBC2, the Donmar production of Comal and visual magpie." For The pany, one of last year's hot Glass Menagerie he got deep tickets with its haunting songs into prewar New Orleans. I (Barcelona, Little Things We Do Together, Not Getting left him browsing through an American academic's thesis on Married Today etc). It will be followed, on Satutrday nights, lo (or "Othella" as the BBC's by Kevin Elyot's My Night With Reg: Flona Shaw as Richard II: Arthur Miller's handout has it will open at the Directing is both a solitary and a sociable life. "But I'm a

racism in Othello. His Othel-

team player," he says. I am

told he wields a useful bat for

The Gaieties, Harold Pinter's

cricket team. He is also con-

scious of the "ultimate vanity"

'I'd have

been spat

out at 45,

blinking

in the

sunlight'

of acting. "Would

you be an actor?

That neurotic, pa-

ranoia-inducing

profession?" But he

acknowledges that

a first night has the

emotional impact

of a car crash.

"Even I, sitting in

the bar nursing my

drink, am para-ivsed with fear,

and I'm not even

on the stage."

and the Donmar, named after

Donald Albery and Margot Fonteyn and known as "the

sexiest space in London", are

now an institution. He has

become one of the new Labour

entrepreneurs, grateful for

Arts Council grants but also

adept at wooing private fund-

ing. "You know the Tories, the

most destructive influence on

the arts, have been in power

since I was 14? I pray Labour

gets in." He commissions new

work, but "unless the material

is better than you, it's not

worth working on", and says it

is one thing to visualise a historical period on stage, but

quite another to imagine and

reinvent it from the inside -as

novelists such as Barry

Unsworth, Patrick Susskind,

National in September.

urists recoil at the idea of televising theatrical productions. But doesn't it make sense? In New York, the Museum of Modern Art keeps an archive of such tapes -- and would not posterity love to see Garrick, or Ellen Terry, or Gielgud's Hamlet on stage?

Besides, having often paid £100 for my family to see a play about which the critics have been all too kind, I wish that we had watched it in comfort at home: at least you can switch off. And one night's television audience of millions would take a 14-year run in the Sam Mendes West End to achieve.

The Dommar has acquired its own special buzz, like the Royal Court and the Almeida - and Mendes says he can't imagine anywhere he would rather operate. Not even the National? He

was invited to apply for Richard Eyre's job, soon to be Trevor Nunn's, but he rightly declined. It came too soon. "It would have consumed ten years of my life, and there are many things I don't possess to keep a perspective on a job like this. I don't have a family or a home base,

"I'd have been spat out at 45, blinking in the sunlight. I would love to run a big theatre some time. But I have many other things to do first - films, musicals, opera . . . "

A corner of Paris that remains forever England

Joseph Connolly on a shop the French have taken to heart

British designers such as John Galliano and Alexander McQueen may or may not be taking Paris by storm, but what is absolute ly sure is that there is a little corner of Paris that truly has been England for the past 75 years. The shirt-maker Hilditch & Key is the oldest English shop in the capital, and beautifully situated on the Rue de Rivoli, directly opposite the Place de la Concorde.

What is quite startling about this 1920s establishment, however, is the way it has become adopted and adored by the very cream of French society, politics, arts

ing of a clutch of the most internationally famous French designers of all. During the first week of this year, Edouard Balladur — an old customer strolled into the shop and selected half a dozen shirts. A recent

Figuro shows him wearing a Hilditch shirt, cravat and very fetching multicolour striped alpaca cardigan. But it is the designers vote that really counts, Karl Lagerfeld has ll his shirts hand-made by Hilditch & Key, whose files are bulging with handwritten letters from him, praising the perfection of

the product. Most of the shirts sold are ready-made, but if you do go for bespoke, then you are buying the best in the world: even the buttonholes are sewn entirely by hand — and you simply don't encounter that, these days, outside Savile Row, and then only with the suits. Lagerfeld is not the only person at Chanel who finds H&K irresistible. The women's clothes — shirts, scarves, sweaters, wraps and the like - are superb. and the shop has many female fans - Rile Macpherson, Claudia Schiffer. Jane Birkin — even Paloma Picasso. The shop

is managed by Bruce

Philipps, who has been with the company for 14 years, and he makes no secret of which of his illustrious customers he admires the most none other than Yves Saint Laurent.
"In my view," says Mr Philipps, "everything that man touches turns to gold — he is the most perfect designer of all." Maybe so, but he can't be too enamoured of shirts with the YSL label he makes sure that his own come from Hilditch & Key.

This quintessentially institution was founded in 1899 in Jermyn Street in London — there are two shops there still, a third having opened last

year in Sloane Street. There is also a mail order service and its produce finds its way into top stores world, notably Saks Fifth Avenue. The business must have prospered very early on because in the early 1920s it opened its Paris

shop — not a thing that small English companies were noted for doing. The merchandise in the Paris shop is rather more daring than in its London counterparts cashmere sweaters (a firm favourite) in strong and vivid colours, luxurious cashmere and wool dress-ing gowns and shirts with a

touch more pizazz. It is impossible to think of any other non-French shop that has anything like such a hold on Paris as Hilditch & Key - most of the people who make Paris what it is walk through its doors. Hilditch & Key goes about its business with rather more subtlety than the newly elevated breed of British couturiers, but certainly the approach is ar-resting — H&K has le tout Paris both collared and

● Hilditch & Key is at 25 Rue de Rivoli (Place de la Con-corde) 75001 Paris. Also at 37 and 73 Jarmyn Street, London

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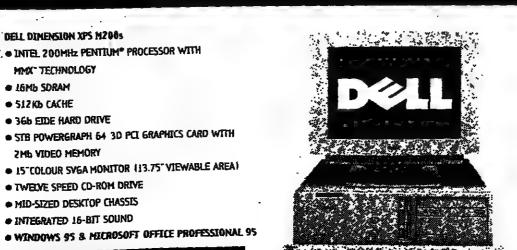
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Philip Howard



■ After Dolly, who next? I can think of two candidates for cloning

f we are going to clone the treasures of our human resources. Ted Heath should be the first. He will just have to spare us a few adult cells from somewhere for the heritage preservation industry.

But the Heath clone we want is not Sailor Ted skippering Morning Cloud to victory in the Admiral's Cup. Nor is it choral scholar Ted rapt at his Christmas carol concert or conducting his recording of Elgar's Cock-aigne overture. Nor is it jolly Ted with shoulders heaving. Nor is it technocrat Ted rattling off quotas of bananas and butter so fast that his performances win him from Private Eve the nickname of Grocer. Nor is it bestselling author Ted flogging his books (of an almost Archerish banality, particularly sound on banquet menus) from a special train around the politer suburbs, where buying an autographed copy was the next best thing to voting Tory in years without an election. Nor is he the radical, classiess Ted. the first Tory Prime Minister from a grammar school.

All these are Ted Heaths we know and love - no doubt to different degrees. But the Heath at the evolutionary stage that we should clone is the grumpy old boy in a sulk. For as that he is a unique treasure and irreplaceable. We need the Father of the House glowering at the Grocer's Daughter from his seat below the gangway. We must preserve the Ted Heath selectively pouring sorm on her economic policies and her lack of vision about Europe. We want the Ted Heath who disliked two things above all else: people who disagreed with him and women. And Margaret Thatcher happened to be both. We want the Heath whom Nicky Fairbairn described as "a little boy sucking his misogynist thumb and blubbing and carping in the corner of the front bench below the gangway". We recognise with delight the Ted Heath of whom George Gardiner, with more truth than black propaganda for once, observed that "receiving support from him in a by-election is like being measured by an undertaker".

For that imago from the chrysalis Ted Heath is an English institution. And his role as national Mr Grumpy is an archetype. Grumpy has been a fiery star from Timon of Athens to Molière's Misanthrope, and from Scrooge to Statier and Waldorf, the two Muppet curmudgeons. Thersites played his part in the Iliad. And one of the first comedies of the Western stage is Menander's Dyskolos or The Grouch. Literature as well as life would be poorer without such badtempered figures of both fear and fun. Children like to be terrified by rage that is clearly pretended.

fter we have cloned Ted Heath for the he can appear simultaneously on Newsnight and News at Ten, we must consider other national heroes for cloning. Another archetype as powerful as the angry old man in a bate is the sage and seer, the wise Merlin figure who can foresee the future from his knowledge of the past. And a strong candidate for that clone is my former Editor who appears on this page on

Mondays and Thursdays.

I went to a Gaudy (old boys' reunion least) at Trinity, Oxford. The main speaker, as is the ritual on these occasions, was praising Trinity and Trinity men of bygone days to the skies, when a Falstaffian archetype halfway down the hall rose unsteadily to his feet and cried: "I have an anecdote!" His neighbours pulled him down by his sleeves. But he bobbed straight up again like a bad apple. So he had either to be carried out or left to tell his anecdote. The latter course seemed more prudent. His anecdote ran: "Of course Trinity in our day was the best college: head of the river, winner of Cuppers, home of the brave. But by far the most celebrated event in my time was performed by me. There was this dreadful swot at Balliol over the wall from my rooms. Called Rees-Mogg. Always getting his name in the papers. Well I got my two Service revolvers, and let off 12 rounds at him one night when he was sitting there illuminated. Missed the bugger. But I must have given him one hell of a fright. I often wonder what happened to him in later life." Just in case there are such Trinity scholars still around, let us clone William for the

Tessa Blackstone accuses the Government of neglecting culture, and outlines Labour's arts policy

Recently there has been an ava-lanche of press reports describing London as the style capital of the world, a symbol of a suddenly discovered, or perhaps rediscovered "Cool Britannia". Behind all the hype lurks a truth we seem reluctant to acknowledge. It is that as a nation we are pre-eminent in almost every field of the arts and cultural innovation, what Tony Blair in a recent speech on the arts called "the creative economy".

The facts speak for themselves. We account for something like 20 per cent of world sales of recorded music. Les Miserables has become a major export industry in its own right, clocking up almost £600 million in overseas earnings. The most innovative and successful creator of electronic games, itself a £6 billion a year industry, is based on Merseyside. And so on. In theatre, fashion, television, design, advertising and architecture. Britain is a world leader. These are formidable assets in a global economy which is more and more driven by a trade in ideas as well as

"Intellectual property" such as music, the audiovisual industries, publishing, software, and other industries whose value derives essentially from rights and royalties, now earns more for the American economy than any other sector. It is growing twice as fast as the rest of the economy and generating jobs almost four times faster. That trend is

Heritage versus a creative economy

mirrored in Britain. The 1991 census revealed that employment in the cultural industries grew 34 per cent in ten

years, against a background of virtually no change in overall employment.

That is not to suggest that the nation's cultural life is nothing more than a useful export industry. The arts are an accounted to the control of the contro essential component of any civilised society. In an age of uncertainty about our values, they can provide powerful forms of self-identity and communica-tion for individuals and for the nation as a whole. They should stimulate not just national pride but also rational policy. Sadly, the Government has failed to recognise either their commercial or their cultural significance, and the success with which many local authorities have put the arts at the centre of strategies for the regeneration of local economies and of civic pride has been accomplished despite the efforts of central government. There are many examples of government failure, from

the lack of adequate planning for the distribution of National Lottery money Arts Council to be a strategic planner to the lack of support for dance and drama students, which means the next generation of performing talent is not getting the opportunities it deserves.

Predictably, an overprescriptive national curriculum has squeezed the arts from school timetables, as a damning report last year from the Royal Society of Arts confirmed. We need to rehabilitate the arts as a legitimate area of public. policy. One way to start is by putting them back where they properly belong at the heart of education. Arts and education feed each other. Schools and colleges are the source both of the artists and the audiences of the future.

For sound social and economic reasons, it behoves good government to foster a climate in which the arts are accessible to all and in which excellence is valued and nurtured. We can build on the commitment of the best local

Arts Council to be a strategic planner and promoter of good practice. We should recognise that broadcasting is the dominant means of access to an enjoyment of the arts. The BBC's power as a patron of the arts far exceeds that of the Arts Council itself, and on the basis of its Oscar nominations, Channel 4 claims to rank alongside some of the Hollywood studios as a successful film-maker. The recent Labour Party lottery review rightly recommended that all major arts funding applications should include plans to use broadcasting to reach new audiences. More television channels and the advent of digital terrestrial television will make

An arts scene that is genuinely popular and lively, with engaged and critical audiences, enables talent to flourish. At present, too much talent

Labour's proposal for a National Endowment for Science, Humanities and the Arts (Nesta") is intended to address this sad state of affairs. Just as the National Trust encourages endowments of land and property to be enjoyed by future generations. Nesta will encourage artists and other creative people to donate copyrights as an endowment for the support of future talent. Today's successes will provide seed-corn for

In that sense, the scheme is a paradigm of what a good arts policy should be, building on the heritage of the past, not for its own sake but to discuss the future is discover new directions for the future. It is unfortunate that the government department responsible for the arts goes under the label of "heritage". It should be more concerned with the future than with the past, not least because that future looks bright. The vitality of our cultural life will be a key element in any attempt to rebuild a more cohesive and inclusive society. It also seems likely to be an increasingly significant motor of the national economy, a major potential source of jobs and wealth, and one of the most attractive aspects of our interna-tional image. It adds up to an enviable the role of broadcasters even more position from which to step into a new millennium, and that is a bonus we ought not to waste.

Baroness Blackstone is a Labour

The West Lothian nightmare

What would a Scottish parliament do to England? Make chauvinists of the Tories

t is February 1999. Labour has won the 1997 election and, after a short Commons struggle, instituted ref-erendums in Wales and Scotland to discover whether their peoples de-sired parliaments of their own. The Scots referendum has included a second question: Shall their parliament have tax-raising powers?

Wales has voted narrowly against a parliament, while Scotland voted "yes" to a parliament but "no" to tax-raising powers. After a long and debilitating fight in the Commons and Lords, a Bill to give Scotland its parliament has passed, the institution has been set up in Edinburgh, and elections to it have taken place. Edinburgh's remit includes health, education, local government. employment, heritage, transport, home affairs (most of

them) and a fair measure of the portfolio of the former Board of Trade" too. As Edinburgh has no power to raise

revenue, but must govern with grants is in a state of permanent rage at what its members see as inadequate funding from London, Every domestic ill or want is blamed on insufficient resources from London, Scots political careers are being carved by skill in doing this, and conflict is stirred cruelly by the Principal Opposition in Edinburgh, the Scottish National Party, which portrays Scottish Labour (the governing party) as the poodle of an English master, Tony

Blair. The campaign brings the SNP re-wards in local government elections. Scottish Labour members and their Edinburgh leader, a Mr Robert Mackay, are driven into the most intransigent posture they dare risk, against the Labour government in England. The Scottish National Party is boycotting the London legislature.
The English electorate is baffled and annoyed by all this. Voters hardly understand the feuding within the

ruling Labour Party, and are not disposed to try. They are left with a vague feeling that Scottish politicians are a troublesome, greedy and ungrateful lot. They are, of course, ruled by Scottish politicians — "ruled" in the sense that Scotland has also sent some 55 Scotlish

MPs to Westminster, where the London government's overall majority is 37. Without these Scots colleagues in the Westminster division lobbies, none of the government's measures, including all its measures for English health. education, local government and so

standings are easy to fan. Into this unhappy some step the Secretary of State for Local Government in England and Wales, the northeastener Jack Cunningham, and his Edinburgh opposite number, Mr Mackay. There has been a growing need to choose a site in which to bury low-level nuclear waste, produced in both Scottish and English power stations. Possible sites have been identified in Northumbria and Fife.

English MPs from the North East are enraged, but the whole Scottish Labour Party confronts Prime Minister Blair with the truth that the SNP will make mincemeat of them if Fife is chosen — for Sassenach waste! Blair, weakened by other disputes, tips his London Cabinet into recommending Northumbria.

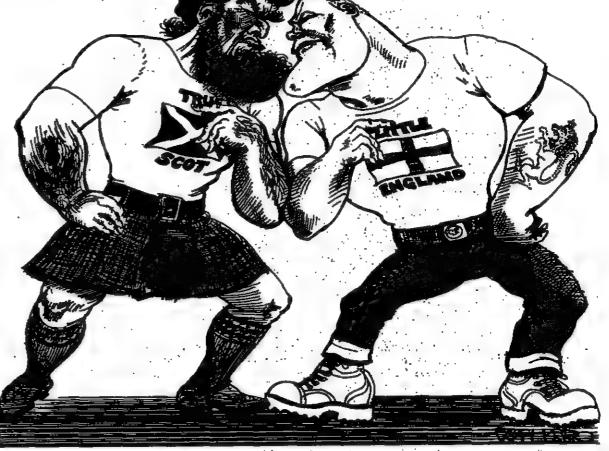
Mackay beats Cun-

rebellion by English Labour MPs from the North East plus the whole Tory Opposition, but, using his army of 55 Scots MPs. Blair

It is unfortunate that at this moment two government Bills are overturned in the as yet unreformed Lords: one to dismantle the last remaining grammar schools in England, the other (the NHS being in one of the more acute of its cash crises) to give the English Health Secretary emergency powers to close hospitals in England without the customary consultation and delay. Returning to the Commons, both Bills provoke rebellions by English MPs, but the Scottish Labour infantry is used to beat

late never endowed me with brains, brawn or good looks in any unusual measure: but what did come my way was a calm and massive faith in the power of a sound argument. Grasp that rope, and in the end you will never be confounded. To my surprise, better men than me face of the opinions of others. Being, at heart, always a little afraid of logic, they weigh arguments like flour — "How strongly do how many people feel about this now?" — rather than evaluating what is sustainable. Thus they minimise the side of heart and the strong of the side of heart and the side of he the risk of being confounded by their peers, preferring the risk of being confounded by events.

And so we come to this Tuesday's letter to The Times from Lord Jenkins of Hillhead. Jenkins is a good, brave man with a powerful mind; but he has taken fright: not at the logic of the devolution-ists' case, but at its passion. After a



discursion into the Irish question in the 19th century, he urges that a parliament for Scotland "had better be accepted" or else the Union will be in danger.

But that is not an argument, it is a threat. Lord Jenkins offers it as his solution to the fabled West Lothian question. Or, rather, he declares that in the face of this threat, "the West Lothian question, neatly unanswerable aithough it is, falls into insignificance. It is easy to picture the civilised yet dismissive wave of the wrist with which Lord Jenkins would say "falls into insignificance". But does it? Will it? Does the question

"What would Scottish MPs at Westminster be for?" fall into insignificance? More than two-thirds of the Commons business this week past — a National Heritage Bill, London Underground, social security, the Church of England. education and employment...—would, after devolution, have gone to Edinburgh or appear as "English and Welsh" business at Westminster. Does it "fall into insignificance" to ask what Scottish MPs at Westminster would be

doing here?
When the votes of Scottish MPs. strangers to their own country's parliament, swing the Commons are over St

grants to English local authorities. abolish English grammar schools or direct the burial of nuclear waste in England, will the West Lothian question fall into insignificance? Let Scottish MPs' votes clinch the closure of Devonport naval dockyard, and wait for the Sun headline: "Jocks sock docks shock"; wait for the Daily Mail: "Bury Dounreay waste in Northumbria say Scots MPs"; wait for the first brick through the window of the first Scottish MPs London apartment; and ask yourself whether that brick, and the

anger which will propel it, "falls into

insignificance". Few can match Lord Jenkins's understanding of the Irish question at the end of the last century, but some of us have some understanding of the Tory party at the end of this one. I say to him — what none of the present Cabinet can say but many fear - that his road leads inexorably to the emergence of the English Conservative Party and precisely the "little England chauvinism" that he and I so fear. If, with me, he had watched the response and body-language of the government benches dur-ing last week's thrilling debate on devolution, he would know that this

Thomas's Hospital in London, slash could come very fast - within months. not years. It is simmering beneath the surface now.

· Lord Jenkins says the West Lothian question is unanswerable. It is not. There is a simple answer: the establishment of a comparable parliament for England: not bits of England, not the East Midlands or the Welsh Marches, but England. If we get Scottish devolution, this will become the official policy of the Conservative Party, before the millennium. It is not too late - but there re-

main only days - for Mr Blair to withdraw his proposals, in favour of a new post-election consultation across the parties. It is not too late for Mr Major to respond with a recognition that the rage England would feel against Scot-tish rule is the rage Scots feel now about rule from England. It's an embarrassment and a bore, but wearily and painfully, both sides must agree to tear up their cardboard models and start

This will be almost impossible for Mr Blair to do. But that he wants to and knows he ought to, I can know without speaking to him. I can know because I know he, too, understands the power of argument.

Bell rings

THEY are already manning the boats at Conservative Central Office for after the election. Charles Lewington, the director of communications at Smith Square, is said to be in the first liferaft. He plans to leave Central Office after the election, whatever the result.

He tells some that he fancies a return to newspapers, which may be difficult for a while in the light of his obviously politically slanted work over the past couple of years. Others, however, seem sure that he will be finding his way into the



Lewington: way out

welcoming arms of Sir Tim Bell and his PR business. He has been seeing a lot of Bell recently in planning meetings for the election. Lewington was political editor of

the Sunday Express and a favourite of its Editor, Eve Pollard, before Central Office came shopping for him. His manner and permanent tan are more suited to a game-show host or Mediterranean gigolo than a political hatchet-man.

Bell's company has been a useful halfway house for many former political advisers. Jonathan Hill, the Prime Minister's political secretary, went there after No 10, as did Stephen Sherbourne, Margaret Thatcher's political secretary.

As one former colleague of Lew-

ington's puts it: "He'd love it with Bell. He is after all a man who likes plants on his desk and his coffee out of china cups." • Theft is rife among visitors to

the Royal Opera House at the moment. They have been taking momentoes such as lavatory signs before the place closes for a twoyear refit in July. Keith Cooper, the general manager of the ROH, is keen to stop the crimewave. "There

will be plenty of opportunity for people to buy their momentoes, so they needn't steal them." So enough of the furtire trousering.

One's rush

THE unprecedented levels of security surrounding the state visit of President Weizman of Israel seem to have inconvenienced the Queen as well as London's drivers. On Wednesday, she found herself delayed en route to the unveiling of the Raoul Wallenberg statue.



"I'm sorry it's another \$20,000 to use the bathroom"



When she arrived, before either her greeting party or her chauffeur could make it to open her door, she had dispensed with ceremony, opened the door herself and got out to be greeted by a flushed Lord Mayor.

Family fella

POR anyone still baffled about precisely what it is spin-doctors do, a good example appeared in yester-day's Sun. Blazoned across two pages were Tony Blair and his wife, with the Labour leader saying he would "walk away from politics tomorrow" if he was forced to choose between his family and his job.

Only last week, Blair was completely outflanked on the family man front in Cosmopolitan magazine. Asked to name the most sig-



nificant events in their lives, a

blushing John Major nominated

his marriage to Norma, while Blair

THIS evening sees John Major fundraising in Glasgow for a silly hat party. It has all the makings of a disaster. Marquees are planned on the banks of the Clyde. Unfortunately, so are gales.



Major headache

Cornedy hats will be handed out at the entrance, presumably in homage to Douglas Hogg and the PM's own appearance in tribal headgear at the Khyber Pass earlier this year. By way of a challenge to any paparazzi, the order has come from No 10: no cameras.

 Impressing the judges at this year's Miss Belgium beauty contest will require more than two hobbies and an intimate knowledge of nailvarnish, after a regional heat was won by an economics student. Sandrine Durrant, 19, was crowned Miss Brabant Wallon after giving a speech on the merits of a single Енгореан ситепсу.

Grey gay

ON THE stage at the Fridge mightclub in Brixton on Wednesday night was a young man in shorts, carrying a snorked shouting "I'm gay and I work for the Treasury." Meet John Gillespie, Band C civil servant and enthusiastic entrant in the London heats of Mr Gay UK.

Greasing up backstage before the show, Gillespie confessed that although he was concerned about what this might do to his promotion prospects, he was tired of the anonymity of Civil Service work and "always wanted to be famous".



Sandrine: euro one

"He's lake, enjoys rowing, dancing and vandalism," said the compere. "His role model is ex-Take Thatter, Gary Barlow," and on came Gillespie in trunks and vest. He soon dispensed with the top, removed the snorkel from between his lips and let out a hugh cathartic cry: "I work for the Treasury, and it is cool." He did not qualify for the nest round.

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ANKARA COUP FEVER

Warning time for Turkey and its allies

Turkey is a pivotal member of Nato. Its integrity and democracy are vital not only to regional stability but to the Atlantic alliance as a whole. Turkish democracy now looks increasingly imperilled. The Islamic Government of Necmettin Erbakan has embarked on a campaign to give Islam a more visible position in Turkish public life. This has alarmed many people, including politicians, who see a threat to the longestablished secular Constitution. President Demirel, an influential political veteran, has made clear his concern. More ominously, the Turkish Army, which sees itself as a guardian of the Ataturk Constitution, is implacably opposed to the trend. It has already sent tanks through the capital's Islamic suburbs as a warning. Today Mr Erbakan has a crucial meeting with senior officers. Tension is running high and rumours are rife. The threat of a military coup is everywhere.

To dismiss the army's concern as bluster is to underestimate its power and growing dismay at the fumbling of Mr Erbakan's illmatched coalition. Turkey's military establishment is far from happy. It had hopes, along with other weary voters, that the advent to power of the Welfare Party might lead to a breakthrough in the guerrilla war with the Kurds - a conflict that has taken more than 12,000 lives. Under an Islamic banner of unity, it was hoped that Mr Erbakan might be able to satify Kurdish political and cultural demands. No such

thing has happened, and the war goes on. The army has also looked with dismay at the Government's crass attempts to pursue an Islamic foreign policy with provocative visits by Mr Erbakan to Iran and Libya. These have weakened Turkey's influence in Washington and been used by the Greek lobby there to undermine Turkey's request for new weapons. As a result, Turkey is now subject to an undeclared weapons embargo. For the army, Nato is a source of strength and pride; anything that weakens Turkey's position in the alliance is deeply resented.

European policy has been equally un-successful - although the Europeans are largely to blame. The worsening relations with Greece, the provocative Cypriot insistence on buying Russian missiles and the European Union's continued withholding of funds to offset Turkish losses from the customs union have all made the Government look weak and increased a sense of isolation in Ankara. Turkey, one of the earliest applicants for full EU membership, now sees itself being overtaken in the queue. by 11 other applicants. And with Greece hauling on the brakes, the EU seems unwilling to offer Turkey even the facesaving guarantee that its case will be considered equally with the others.

Despite a long campaign against the Islamists by other political parties, voters took a chance on Welfare. They thought that nothing could be worse than the mess made by the traditional parties; and they believed that the army and any secular coalition partner would keep the Islamic trend under control. In the second they have been disappointed. High-profile rows such as those over the attempt to allow women civil servants to wear headscarves and a proposal to build a new mosque in Istanbul's main square have convinced many that the Government is encouraging Islamic fundamentalism and that Tansu Ciller, the junior

coalition partner, has little power to stop it. Yet no one wants the army to step in, as it did in 1960 and 1980. It would be a disastrous setback for Turkish democracy and encourage Islamic underground fanaticism. The economy is in better shape than in 1980 and the army itself knows the risk of intervention. President Demirel has no power to dismiss the Prime Minister. But he and the army officers can warn him of the dangers of his political course. For the sake of Turkey and the alliance, he should listen.

CASH FOR ANSWERS

University funding should reflect research excellence

The days when only economics dons talked about money have long since passed for Britain's universities. The issues of overall funding levels and the internal allocation between institutions now dominate academic life. The latest cash grants outlined by the Higher Education Funding Council for England (HEPCE) yesterday will doubtless spark further fury in the common rooms. The total amount available has been frozen in real terms, which will disappoint many but surprise few. On the other hand the Government has conceded rather greater delegation over decisions between capital and current expenditure, overdue offer of flexibility.

The most intense scrutiny, though, will be placed on the individual totals awarded. This year those figures were intended to reflect the recently completed research assessment procedure. Universities were informed that their performance would be linked to scrutiny of their scholarly output. Such outside monitoring of standards has never been popular. Protests about the amount of additional paperwork and bureaucracy involved have considerable legitimacy. The accompanying charge that the whole concept of comparison was impossible had rather less to commend it.

Despite this oft-expressed distaste, the financial inducements available appeared to have some impact. In aggregate, the numbers achieving higher grades from this external evaluation showed an encouraging increase from the 1992 equivalent. More impressive still were the number of departments that achieved the new, and welcome, five star highest rank indicating a standard of significant international excellence.

The sums awarded by the funding agency have followed the research exercise to some

extent but not completely. Institutions that showed a dramatic improvement have had part of their increase "moderated": that is, their gain has been clawed back to subsidise those who were judged to have made little or no progress over the past four years. This has been explained by the claim that dramatic shifts in financial settlements would be unduly disruptive on those who found their resources cut. As a consequence, University College, London will receive nearly £1.7 million less than otherwise: Oxford University just over £1 million, and Imperial College, London, over £500,000.

Had that money been transfered to thos institutions that recently switched from polytechnic status it might be justified. Many of these new bodies have not yet had the opportunity to develop their potential as research centres. The real beneficiaries from this policy decision, however, include the Universities of Exeter, Liverpool, London and Manchester, which could not be considered disadvantaged or less than established by any stretch of the imagination. This is a simple case of the rules being altered to assist those whose relative performance was less impressive. The principle of rewarding excellence has been diluted to restore equity.

There seems little point in obliging higher education to endure such assessment if the results are then rewritten. It discriminates against those who have made an effort to improve and undermines the entire exercise. After the 1992 enterprise some version of redistribution endured for three years. This time, HEFCE has pledged that the crosssubsidy will stay in place for 12 months only. If the council is serious in its stated aim of investing in world-class research then it will not last a moment longer.

MODERN MEDICI

Patron of pickled cows moves to Piccadilly

The most powerful Renaissance patrons supported their personal aesthetic judgments with large fortunes. The artists profited, and so did their backers. In Britain today, patronage has revived, but much of it rests in the hands of just one man: Charles Saatchi. Mr Saatchi has contributed more to the international recognition of young British artists than any public institution. Now his collections are to reach a larger

audience in a show at the Royal Academy. Other rich Britons collect art, though the pursuit is nothing like as common here as it is in America or Germany. But Sir Denis Mahon, who has built up a great collection of 17th-century Italian paintings, and Lord Lloyd-Webber, who has amassed a large body of Pre-Raphaelite and other Victorian art, have not in the process helped living painters. A patron is more than a collector: by his financial support, he ensures that the

art which he appreciates will flourish. Mr Saatchi has been buying modern British art for nearly 30 years. He has built a gallery in Boundary Road where the annual show of young British artists regularly attracts between 50,000 and 75,000 visitors. In its first year, which was 1992, it included Damien Hirst and Rachel Whiteread, the enfants terribles of their generation. It is now seen as a barometer of success and fashion. The show is as much of an event as a big opening at the Tate. And where Mr

Saatchi leads, the subsidised galleries follow. In making himself an arbiter of taste, he has been criticised for making one-way bets, for backing and buying artworks from which he is bound to make money, whatever happens. Presumably, in the best traditions of his craft, he does make money from his patronage. Yet taste is a fickle thing; there are huge financial risks in being the only big player in a field that could easily be abandoned for another.

Mr Saatchi's taste is not shared by all; indeed it is excoriated by many who see in it only kudos for the sensation-seeking. Not everyone will be happy that his artists will be legitimised by such an august institution as the Royal Academy. But the question of whether pickled cows should qualify as art is for critics, not collectors. It is they who are supposed to be arbiters of artistic merit. And let other patrons, with other tastes, vie too for the title of modern Medici.

The likes of Mr Hirst, Marc Quinn and Marcus Harvey have helped to make modern Britain celebrated around the world. The Royal Academy has caught the spirit of the times. Its Piccadilly galleries will be able to attract a more varied crowd than now makes the pilgrimage to Boundary Road. If people hate the work, so be it. And if Mr Saatchi increases the value of his collection by opening it up to wider view, good luck to him

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

: 1 Pennington Street, London El 9XN Telephone 0171-782 5000

Investment 'crisis' of London's Tube

From the Chief Executive of the Landon Chamber of Commerce and Industry

Sir, Among the increasing number of suggested solutions to London's Tube investment crisis (reports, February 26) is the theory, endorsed by Labour, that a strategic authority would provide an effective voice with which to argue for sufficient funding levels.

History suggests differently, however.
According to London Transport's
own figures, the investment backlog
in 1988 stood at £2 billion at today's prices - that was just two years after the abolition of the Greater London Council. Since then, far from getting worse, the backlog has been whittled

away to £1.2 billion.

A strategic body of some description, which London's business community would warmly welcome but for different reasons, is only part of the solution to the present problems. Other elements include the effective management of London Transport, which already exists, and the political determination to ensure adequate investment funding, which clearly does

Whether or not the Tube is eventually privatised, investors will be happy to invest in a network, provided a commercial rate of return is forthcoming. London certainly needs a strategic body, but not in order to recruit investors; rather, it needs one to promote and defend its interests, to coordinate public policy more generally, and to ensure that policymaking in London becomes more transparent.

To our competitors in other world cities it can seem ludicrous that a city of London's magnitude, responsible for producing one fifth of the UK's GDP, lacks an accountable, transparent and effective means of formulat-

ing and co-ordinating policy.
It is also ludicrous that London's Tube system, which you rightly des-cribe as "this marvel of Victorian engineering" (leading article, February, 24), is abandoned to dilapidation. But a new government structure for London is not sufficient in itself to ensure this. It needs political will too.

Yours faithfully, SIMON SPERRYN, Chief Executive, London Chamber of Commerce and Industry, 33 Oueen Street, EC4. February 25.

From Mr Illtyd Harrington

Sir, It really is beyond belief that the Government, with Sir George Young cast once again as Pontius Pilate, is washing its capital investment failures away with a privatisation solution for London's Underground. It has long been apparent, certainly

to the City and its Lord Mayor, that countability proved to be a successful OTTU London now has the highest fares in Europe. No one can deny that the

New York subway is cheaper and in many ways more reliable than London's. A once-envied public utility should resume that role in the hands of local

London government Yours faithfully, ILLTYD HARRINGTON (Deputy Leader, GLC, 1973-85).

16 Lea House, Salisbury Street, NW8.

February 25. From Mr John Norton

Şir. As an American tourist in London on two occasions within the past year, I urge the powers that be to heed Peter Riddell's advice on February 24, "Mind the funding gap", and to find the funding needed for the Tube.

From a tourist's perspective, Tube transport is a national - or at least a London - treasure. There is no better way to gain an appreciation for the characters of the many Londons that I have come to enjoy but never would have save for Tube transit. By contrast, the New York subways are the absolute last place one would wish to consign a tourist to.

I hope that the rider of modest means - foreign or native - is not forgotten in any scheme to privatise the system and that the ingenious simplicity of a fairly complex system will be maintained. Thousands of us look forward to renewing our acquaint-ance with London via its wonderful

Yours etc. JOHN NORTON, 9 East High Street, Annville, PA 17003. February 25.

Quite a quorum

From Mr Timothy M. Simon

Sir, Committees, in my experience, are a device invented to thwart decision-making and to provide people with a frequently undeserved forum; but the mind of even the most committed committophile must have boggled at the size of the funeral com-mittee established for Deng Xiaoping - 459 members (report, February 21).

I admit that it appears to have oper-ated with an efficiency which many smaller committees would be proud to emulate: maybe in time-honoured fashion it spawned a sub-committee.

Yours faithfully, T. M. SIMON, 2 New Square, WC2, February 25.

West Lothian question: flaws in the Ulster analogy

From Lord Blake, FBA

Sir, Lord Jenkins of Hillhead (letter. February 25), dealing with the "awk-wardness" of the West Lothian question, concluded that on the analogy of Northern Ireland "it had better be accepted for Scotland (perhaps with some reduction in the number of Scot-

tish seats at Westminster)". Why "perhaps"? What possible jus-tification could there be for Scotland to have both a devolved parliament in Edinburgh and 71 seats in Westminster when on a population basis it is entitled to only 57? Indeed, if the analogy of Northern Ireland is accepted, it should have even fewer.

As Mr Jonathan Caine pointed out in his letter of February 21, from 1920 until the abolition of the Stormont parliament in 1972 Northern Ireland had only 12 seats at Westminster. On a population basis it would have had 17. If Scotland is to have a devolved parliament its representation at Westminster ought to be reduced to 40.

Yours faithfully. BLAKE. House of Lords. February 25.

From the Director of the Conservative Political Centre

Sir, It is pointless to follow Roy Jenkins in speculating about whether Anglo-Irish amity would have been secured if Gladstone's Home Rule Bills had passed. Gladstone knew little of Ulster and cared less. He re-fused to discuss his plans seriously with members of his own party in the Province, and he dismissed unmistak-able signs of widespread resistance in 1886 as "momentary ebullitions, which will pass away with the fears from which they spring". Any devolu-tion scheme for Ireland which included the majority of Ulster's Unionists could never have become practical politics, and Irish nationalists were not willing to contemplate partition seriously before 1912

Opponents of a Scottish parliament

with legislative and tax-raising pow-ers can easily withstand arguments based on wishful thinking about Irish history. But, like Irish Unionists a century ago, they need constructive al-ternatives. Under this Government they have been able to develop their ideas much more fully than their predecessors, curbed by unimaginative English Tories, were ever in a position

The Union between Scotland and the rest of the country has been transformed by Michael Forsyth's reforms. Local government in Scotland has been put on a more democratic basis (something, incidentally, that Gladstone in the early 1880s flatly refused to do in Ireland). Most importantly, a form of devolution has been found that avoids the West Lothian question and all other difficulties, through the expansion of the Scottish Grand Committee. It can meet anywhere in Scot-land; it can deal with all Scottish legis-

That determent remains as potent to Israel's defence now as it did then. Re-

velation of the means and its precise

capability can only constitute the

gravest of threats to the nation's se-

curity. Acts of treason of similar grav-

ity have led to the imposition of the

death penalty in the United States and

Although one cannot criticise Mr

Neil for publishing what amounted to

a major scoop in The Sunday Times,

one wonders whether he warned Mr

Vanunu at the time of the likely conse-

Mr Vanunu's rightful conviction,

sentence and denial of a pardon re-

ceive the support not only of Israel's

right-wing Likud but also of the Lab-

Gulf War.

Great Britain.

quences of his actions.

our Opposition.

lation; and it can call all ministers (not just Scottish Office ministers) to

This Government has reconciled devolution and Union.

Yours faithfully, ALISTAIR B. COOKE,

Director, Conservative Political Centre. 32 Smith Square, Westminster, SWI. February 25.

From Dr H. A. Will

Sir, Lord Jenkins's perceptive letter does not do justice to the logic of Jo-seph Chamberlain's position in 1886 on the question of Irish representation

at Westminster.

Why Chamberlain finally came to regard that representation as crucial was because, in his view, it would open the way for a future federal relationship between England, Scotland, Wales and Ireland on the lines, as he out it of the relations between the Canadian provinces. That was his answer to the West Lothian question and to the wider and, for him, far more important question of preventing the ultimate separation of Ireland from the United Kingdom.

It is, whatever its practicality, the only logical constitutional settlement.

Yours faithfully, H. A. WILL, 11 Russell Avenue. Hartley, Plymouth, Devon. February 26.

Vanunu plea

From Mr David Harounoff

Sir, Neither Mr Mordechai Vanunu's motives nor the medium he used to reveal details of Israel's nuclear capability can mitigate his actions (Andrew Neil's letter, February 24). One submission in mitigation is remorse. Sadly, that has been absent from any pleadings advanced by or on behalf of Mr Vanunu.

That the State of Israel was at the time of Mr Vanunu's crime - and indeed remains - in a state of war with Syria, Iraq, Iran and Libya is beyond dispute. The threat of activating its nuclear deterrent was enough to cause the Syrians to halt their advance into Israel's northern territory during the 1973 October war. It may have played a part in dissuading the tracis from deploying chemical and biological warheads against Israel during the

Yours sincerely, DAVID HAROUNOFF 4 King's Bench Walk, Temple, EC4.

Crime and punishment From Mr Peter G. Smith

Sir. At one level Lord Rees-Mogg "The Lords aren't soft on crime, just in his assertion that it would become more difficult to manage, in a rational way, the resources deployed in the prevention, detection and punishment of crime without some distinction be-

which is serious (letters, February 18, 19, 22]. However, at another level, surely what the Home Office is attempting to do is to take some account of the feelines of victims of petty crime. In this respect, at least, the opinions of the man on top of the bus, much deprecat-

ed by Lord Rees-Mogg, are surely rea-

tween that which is petty and that

sonably valid. The cumulative effect of petty crime can have a devastating effect on the lives of the poorer members of our society. All too often we read of council estates and other conurbations where residents and their possessions are regularly subjected to the attentions of criminals, often from their own locality. In such areas many, particularly the elderly, are fearful of leaving their

If I had an Old Master stolen I would be greatly saddened. But my fi-

nancial loss would be ameliorated by my insurers. I would not be overcome by a pervading sense of despair such as that which inflicts the lives of the

people cited above. Yours faithfully. P. G. SMITH, Rainbow's End, Cock Lane, Southend Bradfield, Reading, Berkshire. February 18.

From Mr Nick Eadon

Sir, There is a wealth of research evidence, supported by professionals in the field, that measures to reduce crime and criminality should be founded on programmes which firstly make crime harder to commit and secondly influence the motivation of offenders and potential offenders.

Harsher sentencing policy attracts cheap applause, fulfils the emotions and maybe wins elections; but it disregards reason, reality and the longerterm consequences of implementing such legislation.

Yours faithfully, **NICK EADON** (Probation Officer), Suffolk Probation Service. 34 Foundation Street. Ipswich, Suffolk.

Dietary differences From Professor Emeritus

W. G. Chaloner, FRS, and Professor J. B. Pridham Sir, It would be difficult to find scienti-

fic evidence to support many of the recommendations made in the two articles on natural ways to achieve good health (February 17 and 18). The value of fruits and vegetables as part of a balanced diet is not in doubt. However, we would urge caution to the point of consulting a medical practitioner in the case of some of the listed regimens, particularly the "mono-

For example, a 21-day monofast of watermelons would provide only a very small fraction of the normal dietary requirements and for some, perhaps many, individuals would not be recommended.

Quarantine reform

From Lady Fretwell

Sir, Quarantine reform has been postponed until after the election because of alleged fears among voters about change (report, February 24).

A government consultative paper which has now been suppressed could have helped to inform the public and calm exaggerated fears. What conclusion is one to draw about a policy

This means that thousands of British families abroad have had their hopes dashed, 10,000 animals will sesame seeds should be consumed in gram quantities which, as you reported (News in Brief, early editions, January 13), contain allergens affecting up to 30,000 people in the UK. The arthritis diet also appears to be

We also note the suggestion that

a recipe for an alimentary disaster with a daily intake of cream of tartar (wrongly described as citric acid) and Epsom salts (which are both purgatives) and sodium bicarbonate. Furthermore, the sportsperson will

find it difficult to eat potatoes, tapioca etc, and at the same time avoid starch. Yours sincerely,

W.G. CHALONER, J. B. PRIDHAM, Royal Holloway University of London. School of Biological Sciences. Egham, Surrey. February 19.

which cannot withstand publication

continue to suffer unnecessarily in quarantine and over 100 will die there every year.

What political calculation can justily a block on consideration of safer alternatives?

Yours sincerely, MARY FRETWELL (Chairman), Passports for Pets, 20 Seymour Road, SWI8. February 25.

Letters to the Editor should carry a daytime telephone number. They may be sent to a fax number --0171-782 5046.

Two of a kind

From Mr Jan C. Boulton

Sir, Libby Purves takes a welcome step away from sensationalism in her comment on the cloning of Dolly the lamb ("Like a wolf on the fold". February 25, but she nonetheless asserts that "if we prefer the illusory control of cloning to the glorious gamble of life, we will be interfering with nature in a way far more arrogant and damaging than ever before".

By definition, cloned animals are genetically identical, but the prospect of such organisms being routinely found in agriculture is extremely remote. Farming is a highly competitive business and irrespective of the inevitable reduction in cloning costs, it seems unlikely that tried and tested methods of reproduction will ever be

undersold. Any form of selective breeding has the potential to reduce the available gene pool. Ms Purves's concerns would be more appropriate if directed against the practices of modern farm-

ing than the scientific community. Yours faithfully. IAN C. BOULTON, Guy's and St Thomas' Hospital. Molecular Biology, London Bridge, SEI. February 25.

From Mr G. S. Marvin

Sir, The sub-heading on Libby Purves's article suggests that cloning of animals reduces diversity. This is not necessarily so in nature as a whole. At a different level dandelions have been cioning for thousands of years.

Clones are capable of hybridising and producing new genotypes, which may be regarded as "species". In Britain alone some 130 different species are now recognised (Dandelions, A. J. Richards, Botanical Society of the British Isles, 1973).

Yours etc. STANLEY MARVIN. 8 Addenbrooke Road, Droitwich, Worcestershire. February 25.

From Mr John Kay

Sir, An Edinburgh genetics laboratory has apparently created, for the first time ever, a cloned sheep. Having just returned from a visit to North Wales. I have to say I find it very difficult to believe their work is

Yours sincerely, JOHN KAY, Hazelwood, Priory Road, West Kirby, Wirral, Merseyside. February 27.

From Mr K. L. Rawling

Sir. Perhaps we should bear in mind the words attributed to Ralph Waldo Emerson: "Never try to make anyone like yourself - you know, and God knows, that one of you is sufficient."

Yours etc, K. L. RAWLING, 10 Somerville Terrace. Otley, West Yorkshire. February 26.

From Mrs J. Hadfield

Sir, How correct was the BBC, in a news programme last night, to describe the cloned sheep as "unique"?

Yours faithfully, J. F. HADFIELD. Yew Cottage, West Pennard, Somerset.

February 25. From Mr Paul D. Hale

Sir, Alan Shearer's unfortunate admission to hospital yet again (report, Sport, February 27) presents an opportunity. We have the technology, let's use it. Clone Alan Shearer now!

P. D. HALE, 21 Wilson Street, ECZ. February 27.

Yours faithfully,



COURT CIRCULAR

By Command of The Queen, the Earl of Airlie KT (Lord Chamberlain)

was present at Stansted Airport this

Weizman on behalf of Her Majesty.

February 27: The Duke of York

His Royal Highness later attended

a Concert given by the London Mozart Players for the residents of

Woodcote Grove House, Coulsdon,

Surrey.
February 27: The Princess Royal, Patron, National Association of Citizens Advice Bureaux, this morning visited City Citizens Advice Bureau during its Thirdeth Anniversary and opened the new premises at 32 Ludgate Hill, London EC4.

Her Royal Highness this alternoon visited the British Film Commission.
70 Baker Street, London W.

70 Baker Street, London WI.
The Princess Royal, Honorary
Colonel, University of London Officers Training Corps, this evening
attended the Unit Annual Dinner at

Yeomanny House, Handel Street.

Condon WCI.

CLARENCE HOUSE

Rebrusry 27: Queen Elizabeth The
Queen Mother this marning visited
the National Headquarters of the
British Red Cross Society and presented The Queen's Badge of Honour
to the Counters of Limerick and to Mr

David Martine.

David Wyatt. Mrs Michael Gordon-Lennox and

Sir Alastnir Aird were in ettendance.

SIT JAMESS PALACE
Rebrusty 27: The Prince of Wales was received by The President of the People's Republic of Bangiadesh this

People's Republic of Bamglaidesh this morning.

Afterwards His Royal Highness was received by the Prime Minister.

The Prince of Wales, Patton, visited ActionAid relief projects for stum dwellers in the Tilckapura district of Dhaks and was briefed on the work of ActionAid and WaterAid in Baneladesh.

Bangladesh.
His Royal Highness later flew to
Sylher and was received by the
Divisional Commissioner (Mr

rianour sammani.

The Prince of Wales afterwards attended a Recoption for the local Bangladeshi community at the Sylhet Golf Club.

Cott Club.

His Royal Highness, President,
The Prince of Wales Bestiness Leaders
Forum, later attended a Seminar on
"Parmers in Development" followed
by a Reception at the Sheraton Hotel,
Utuku.

The Prince of Wales this evening attended a State Banquet given by the

February Z: The Duke and Duchess of Glouceser this evening attended a Banquet given by the President of the State of Israel and Mrs Reuma Weisman, at Spencer House, St James's Place, London SWI.

Pebruary 17: The Duke of Kent this evening attended a concert by the International Music Seminar's Prus-

sia Cove, at the Queen Elizabeth Hall, London SEI.

Pebruary 27: Princess Alexandra and the Rt Hon Sir Angus Ogilvy this evening attended a Dinner given by the President of the State of Israel and Mrs Reuma Weizman at Spencer

House, St James's Place, London SWL

Dr John Mitchiner, who was reserved in audience by The Queen on February 26, should have been accredited to the Republic of Arme-nia, not the Republic of Bostia and

Herzegovina as stuted in yesterday's Court Circular.

THATCHED HOUSE LODGE

Prime Minister

YORK HOUSE

KENSINGTON PALACE

with, London SEID.

Surrey.

BUCKINGHAM PALACE February 21: The Secretary-General of the United Nations called on The President of the State of Israel this

The President and Mrs Weigman flew to Cambridge Airport and were received on arrival by Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant of Cam-bridgeshire (Mr James Crowden). The President of the State of Israel and Mrs Reuma Weizman drove to Cambridge University Library and were received by the Vice-Chamcello (Professor Alec Broers).

The President and Mrs Weizman

The President and Mrs Weizman ther arrived at Royal Air Force Crarwell and were received by Her Majesty's Lord-Licutenant of Lincolnshire (Mrs Bridger Cracroft-Eley) and Air Vice-Marshal John Thompson (Air Officer Commanding and Commandant Royal Air Force College Cranwell).

The President of the State of Israel and Mrs Reuma Weizman drove to the Directorate of Recruiting and Selection and Initial Officer Training (Royal Air Force) and watched r exercises. President atterwards visited

Royal Air Porce College Cranwell and, having been received by the Chief of the Air Staff (Air Chief Marshal Sir Michael Graydon), ad-Mrs Welman visited the College

Community Centre.
The President of the State of Israel and Mrs Reuma Weizman were subsequently entertained to Lun-cheon by the Commandant

The President afterwards planted a commemorative tree in Queen's Ave tue and, with Mrs Weizman, viewed nue and, with wirs wetternal, waves static aircraft and met personnel. The President of the State of Israel and Mrs Reuma Weizman later visited the Imperial War Museum, Lambeth Road, London SEI, and were received by The Duke of Kent, Observed of the Imperial War Mis-

President of the Imperial War Mu-seum, and the Chairman (Field Marshal the Lord Bramall KG).

The President and Mrs Weizman viewed exhibits and, having met members of the Jewish Community

in Britain who have supported the project, His Excellency hunded to The Duke of Kent items from the collection of Yad Vashem in Jerusalem as a founding contribution from the State of Israel to the Holocaust Exhibition. His Excellency Mr A. H. Mahmood Ali was received in sud-

ence by The Queen and presented the Letters of Recall of his predecessor and his own Letters of Commission as High Commissioner for the Peoner for the Peo-Bangladesh in Mrs Ali was also received by Her

Majesty.
Sir John Coles (Permanent Under-Serreary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Alfalist was powers.

Major Sir Pergus Matheson of Matheson, Bt, was received by The Queen this morning and delivered upon his Stick of Office upon relinquishing his appointment as Standard Bearer of Her Majesty's Body Guard of the National Lineau and Gentleman at Marcaulan at Marc Arms.
Colonel Sir Piers Bengough was

contes sir Piers Bengaugh we received by The Queen upon his appointment as Standard Bearer of Her Majesty's Body Guard of the Honourable Corps of Gendemen at Arms and received from The Queen is Stick of Office. The Lord Macfarlane of Bearsder

was received by The Queen when Her Majesty Invested him with the Insigna of a Knight of the Most Ancient and Most Noble Order of the Thistle. The Queen and The Duke of Edinburgh were entertained by The President of the State of Israel and Most Powers Meionages of the State of Israel and Most Powers Meionages of the State of Israel and Most Powers Meionages of the securing at Mrs Reuma Weizman this evening at

Mrs Reuma Weizman this evening at a Dirmer at Spencer House. St James's Place, London SWI.

The President and Mrs Weizman, with the Israeli Suite in attendance, alterwards left Buckingham Palace upon the conclusion of the State Visit to The Queen and The Duke of Edinburch.

Edinburgh.
The Dake of Edinburgh, Senior
Trusses, this morning attended a
Meeting of the Trusses of the
National Maritime Museum, Green-

Memorial service

Sir James Comyn, QC
The Lord Chancellor was represented by Ms Michelle Cale at a memorial service for Sir James Comyn. QC. held on Wednesday at the Temple Church. The Lord Chief Justice and the Master of the Rolls were present.

Canon Joseph Robinson, Master of the Temple, officiated, assisted by Father John Fordham, of Brompton Oratory. Mr Justice Cazalet read the

was present as statistic in the tresident of the President of the State of Israel and Mrs Reuma Weizman and bade farewell to His Excellency and Mrs esson and His Honour Kenneth Willcock, QC, gave an address.
The Treasurer of the Middle
Temple and the Treasurer of the Trustee, this morning attended a Meeting of the Trustees of the National Maritime Museum, Greeninner Temple attended. Among Pebruary 27: The Prince Edward, Patron, the London Mozart Players, this evening visited Nestle UK Limited. St George's House, Croydon, Surrey, to mark the opening of the building following restoration and to open the Nestle Exhibition, and was received by Colonel fan McRobbie (Deputy Lieutenant of Greater London).

others present were
Lady Comyn Ison and daughter-inlaw, Miss Kare Comyn Ison and daughter-inlaw, Miss Kare Comyn Idaughter, Dr
Peantor Clarize, Miss Michele Clarize,
Mes Richard Allden, Mr Jonathan
Aliden, Colonnel Robert Chaundler,
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Lord Phillimore, Lady Brandon of
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Lord Oliver of Ayimenton, QC, Lord
Wigoder, QC, Lord Justice BruterSioss, Lady Roskill, Sir David CroomJohnson, Lord Justice Ward, Lord
Justice Potter, Lord Justice Ward,
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Justice Potter, Lord Justice Henry,
Lord Justice Reddam.
Lady Hartison, Mr Justice Brooke,
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Sir Ralph and Lady Kiner Brown,
Lady Lesile, Sir Godfray Le Quesne,
QC, Lady Harman, Sir William
Goodhart, QC, Sir Anthony and Lady
Ewbank, Lady Beaumont.
Mir Ian Karsten, QC, His William
Goodhart, QC, Sir Anthony and Lady
Ewbank, Lady Beaumont
Lower Belley, Judge
Butter, QC, Judge Orden,
Judge Butter, QC, Judge Orden,
Judge Edwards, QC, Mr Mr William
Judge Eice, Judge Goodman, Judge FJ White,
Judge Pownall, QC, Judge John
Hamilton, Judge Bradley, Judge
David McEvoy, QC, Judge Gordon,
Judge Edwards, QC, Mr Anthony Walton, QC, Mr Paurice
Whitby, Mr Deswind Bruwne, QC, Mr Robert
Whitby, Mr Deswind Fire Hollis, Mr John
Whort Teherna, Mr Boyler, Mr Andrew
Tilmo

Mr Marcel Bertins, Mr David Coron, Mr David Penry-Davey, Mr Ruila and Jong Penry-Davey, Mr Ruila and Jong Penry-Davey, Mr Ruila and Mr and Mr Andrew Moylan, Mr and Mr Andrew Moylan, Mr Androy Edle, Mr Richard Ingrams, Mr John Boland, Mr M Richard Ingrams, Mr John Boland, Mr M Ren Maguire, Mr John Boland, Mr M Ren Maguire, Mr Alastair Stewart-Richardson, Mr Alastair Stewart-Richardson, Mr Alastair Stewart-Richardson, Mr John Craig, Mr Milliam Mumford, Mr John Craig, Mrs Ruft Ctaphan, Pather J Bishop, Mr and Mrs Barry Rose, Miss Diana Rose, Mr John Trench, Mr Martin Kramer, Miss Sophile Anto.

Mr Gentld Angel (Senior District Junge, Planty) Division, Miss Sophile Anto.

Mr Gentld Angel (Senior District Junge, Planty) Lew Bar Association), Mr Miss Could Journalies' Association, Mr Mr July School, Woodcolet with Mr Edward Thomeycroft (Chairman of Covernors) and Mr David Wilson, Mr Nigel Wilkinson, QC, (Bar Colling Society, Mr Michael Taylor (Solitor, Press Association Law Service) and many other friends.

Today's royal engagements The Princess Royal, as President of

the British Knitting and Clothing Export Council, will visit Aider-man (Thurston Trading), Picton House, Wargrave Road, Twyford, Berkshire, at 11.00; and will in-Pencis at Wyndyke Furlong, Abingdon Business Park, Oxford-shire, at 12.30. Later, as President of The Princess Royal Trust for Carers, she will attend the Oil Club dinner at The Thistle Hotel, Cambridge Street, Glasgow, at 7.25.



One of the co-operative's vans brings a load of fresh vegetables to the customers

Greens in the Black Country

By JOHN YOUNG

TIPTON, in the heart of the Black Country, is one of those places that disquietingly dent the image of an economically prosperous Britain. The heavy industry, steelworks and foundries that once sustained to have been core sustained. it have long gone, leaving a
depressed and deprived community mired in poverty, unemployment and ill-health.
It is not the sort of place where

one would expect to encounter much in the way of business buildings, let alone a thriving network of fresh fruit and veg etable co-operatives. Even more milkely night seem the prospect of a green revolution aimed at putting abandoned and derelict and back into productive use growing food, at reviving the cultivation of allotments and back gardens, and at persuading low-income families that a healthy dies

income families that a healthy diet is within their means. It all began with a survey undertaken as part of a successful application by Sandwell Borough Council for City Challenge funding. This established that one of the more obvious needs was for incomment absented furtilities. improved shopping facilities. As almost everywhere else in Britain, out-of-town superstores have hastened the closure of local shops, but more than half the population were without cars. Local corner shops sold little or nothing in the way of fresh produce and foreys to supermarkets frequently ended with trolleys being pushed home and then dumped in the canal.

Mr Peter Alliss, goller and bruschester, 66; Sir Philip Builhache, Balliff of Jersey, 51; Sir Peter Baxendell, former challman, Under Challe Conn. 72 Miles

Prawker Stockey Group, 72 Miss Stephanie Beacham, actress, 48; Mr Afred Burke, actor, 79; Mr John Carson, actor, 70; Dr Jonathan Clark, historian, 46; Mr William Cockburn, chief executive, W H Smith Group, 54; Mr Robin Cook, MP, 51; Viscount

Dilhorne, 65; Mr Oliver Everett, librarien, Windsor Castle, 54; Mr

Tristan Garel-Jones, MP, 56; Mrs HLM, Grindrod, QC, 61.

Tristan Garrel-Jones, MP, Str. Mrs. H.M., Grindrod, QC, 61.

Sir Anthony Havelock-Allan, film producer. 93; Admirai Str. Peter Herbert, 68; Major-General M.F. Hobbs, director, Duke of Edinburgh's Award Scheme, 60; Professor J.M. Irvine, Principal and Vice-Chancelor, Birmingham University, 58; Professor Thomas Kempuer, Professor of Business Studies, 57; Mr Barry McGuigan, boxer, 38; Mr George Malcolm, musician, 80; Mr Martin Marriot, furner Headmaster, Caulord School, Dorec, 65; Mr Brian Moore, aports commentator, 65; the Earl of Onslow, 59; Mr Robin Philips, actor and director, 58; Dr Peter Southern, Head Master, Christ's Hospital, 50; Mr Peter Statinard, Editor, The Times, 46; Str.

TODAY

For Joe Drew, chairman of a local tenants' association, part of the answer lay in setting up a distribution and delivery system which would enable people on low incomes to obtain fruit and veg-etables at affordable prices. Resubs of a feasibility study proved promising and the first co-op-erative was set up in November 1993; under Mr. Drew's chairmanhip the number has since grown to 39. Some operate from fixed premises; others simply use vans to tour local housing estates and

Between them they boast some 800 individual members and also supply 23 schools and 16 institutions such as the YMCA, buncheon chiba, nursing homes and day-care centres. Schoolchildren are apparently happy to spend pocket money on apples, oranges and bananas instead of crisps and sweets.
Supplies are purchased cen-

trally at wholesale markets in Birmingham and there are plans

Birmingham and there are plans to diversity into other kinds of health loads.

Project leaders reject the idea that so-called healthy eating is a preoccupation of the middle classes; people further down the ladder buy junk foods because they cannot afford anything else. So far the project has received So far the project has received some £135,000 in grams, used mainly to pay the salaries of Unda Gomila, the nurrager, and two full-time drivers plus the rent of a small building on an industrial estate. It alons to become self-

John Swire, honorary president, John Swire and Sons, 70; Sir Brian Urquhart, former Assistant Sec-retary-General, UN, 78; Vice Admiral

LEAP YEAR (Feb 20):
Mr. Joss Ackland, actor, 69; Mr. Marlo Andretti, racing driver, 57; Str. David Beattie. former Governor-General, New Zealand, 73; Baronass Dunn. 57; Professor Otto Hutter, https://doi.org/10.1006/j.com/

physiologist, 73; Mr Alan Loveday, violinist, 66; Mr James Ogilvy, 33; Mr M.P.G. Wright, Headmaster, Dover College, 53.

Grapple Reunion

The Hon Nicholas Scames, Minister

of State for the Armed Forces, was the guest of honour yesterday at the RAF Club for the annual reunion buncheon

Club for the annual remnon numerous of officers who served on Christonas Island with Task Force Grapple. Alt Vice-Marshal B. H. Newton, Chairman of the Grapple Remion Committee, and Mrs Newton received the

guests. Among those present were Rear-Admirat J Howard, Major-General J Wootlett, Air Vice-huminal D Bower, Air Vice-Marshal I Junes and Mr Peter Jones.



financing and has recently acquired a three-scre former allot-ment from the council at a peppercorn rent, where it plans to raise organically-grown potatoes, celery, carrots, onions, leeks, cabbages and sprouts.
Its success has attracted in-

quiries from many other parts of Britain and Miss Gomila hopes that its "community agriculture" proposals will motivate people to begin growing their own trust and vegetables once again. "At one time most families had their own vegetable gardens or they rented allotments," she says. "That's something we would really like to

The Sandwell Food Co-operatives Project is among the entries for the 1996 Community Enterprise Awards, organised by Business in The Community and sponsored by The Times and Deloitte Tou-che. The winners will be announced next month.

Service dinners University of London OTC

The Princess Royal was the principal guest at the sumual dinner of the University of London Officers Train-Corps of Royal Engineers
General Sir John Sibbon, Chief
Royal Engineer, presided at a guest
night dinner of the Corps of Royal
Engineers held last night in Consham. The Lord-Lieutenant of Humpdeline was corporate to sussite.

shire was among the guests. Dinners

Needlemakers' Company
The Master of the Rolls and Mr Peter
Berrows were the speakers at the
samuel distance of the Needlemakers' Company held less night at the Mansion House. Mr Bruce Aroery. Master, presided. British Academy of Forcosic

Sciences
Professor: Peter Vanezis presided at
the Friends' dinner of the British
Academy of Forensic Sciences held
last night at the Law Society. Mr John
Goldring, QC, and Mr James Hunt,
QC, were the principal speakers.

Divert
Sir Supplen Turnim was the species
at the annual dinner of Divert held
last night at the HAC. Lord Elson,
chairman, presided.

Forthcoming marriages

Mr R.F.J. Arion
and Miss S.M.M. Buckham The engagement is announced between Robert Francis John, son of the late Mr and Mrs John Arlott, of Alresford, Hampshire, and Sophie Marguerite Macrae, daughter of the late Lieutenant Colonel and Mrs Arthur Buckham, of Alresford, Hampshire.

Mr J.P. King and Mess N.M. Turl The engagement is announced between John Peter, younger son of the late Raymond King and of Mis King, of The Old Manse, Wilton, Salisbury, and Naomi May, elder daughter of Mr and Mrs Peter Turi, of Coulsdon, Surrey. Mr S.J. North

and Miss T.S. Cochrane
The engagement is announced
between Simon, youngest son of
Mr and Mrs Mile North, of Braceborough, Lincolnstine, and Tracy, younger daughter of Mr James Cochrane and the late Mrs.

Hilary Cochrane, of Sevenoales, Kent. Mr S.M. Reynolds and Miss C.M. Imag

The engagement is announced between Smoon, youngest son of Mrs Sheila Reynolds, of Charlbury, Oxon and the late Mr. William Reynolds, and Clare. daughter of Mr David Inns, of Cucklington, Somerset, and Mrs Esmond Kaye, of Kingsteignton. Dividing. Mr A.T.K. Westenberger

and Miss A.K. Evans
The engagement is announced between Andrew, only son of Mr. and Mrs K.A. Westenberger, of Weston-super-Mare, North Somerset, and Alison, younger daughter of Mrs T.M. De Ath and the late Mr J.A. Evans; of London.

Mr M.C. Barden and Miss D.E. Milsch The engagement is amnounced between Mark son of Mr and Mrs Albert Barden, of Rothley. Leoestershire, and Doris, daughter of Mr and Mrs Wilfred Mitsch. of Portola Valley, California. Lieutenant E.G.B. Hayter, RN,

and Miss V.A. Fage
The engagement is announced between Edward, elder son of Mr. between Edward, elder son or wr.
and Mrs George Hayter, of
Maisemore, Gloucestershire, and
Victoria, only daughter of Mr and
Mrs Anthony Fage, of Little
Kingshill, Buckinghamshire,
Mr T.M.B. Watts

and Miss A.C. Betts and Miss A.C. Betts
The engagement is announced between Toby, elder son of Colonel and Mrs Mark Watts, of Northleigh, Devon, and Alison, elder daughter of Brigadier and Mrs Michael Betts, of Edinburgh.

Marriage

Mr J.N.V. Bowater The marriage took place on February 14, 1997, at the Church of St. Mary the Virgin, Henley on-Thames, between Mr Justin Bowater, son of Mr Nicolas Bowater and Mrs Mina Bowater and Miss Jacinia Heptonstall, daughter of Mr Nicholas Heptonstall and Mrs Virginia Heptonstall, The Rev David Prichard officiated.

The bride, who was given in marriage by her tather, was altended by Miss Lisa Cox, Miss Candida and Miss Zoe Heptonstall and Tomasina and Florence Saunders, Mr Michael Shelton Florence Agar, Mr Rupest Liddiard and Mr Charles Langlands-Pearse were lies mar A reception was held at the Leander Club and the honeymoon

was spent in Ireland.

Roedean Roedean School is pleased to

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Janior Scholarships and Awards
Major Academic Scholarships:
Natalia Mansfield (Daneshill,
Osshott), Emily Woolf, (St Beder,
Eastbourne); Major Academic and
Music Scholarship; Selma Oliver (St
Beder, Eastbourne); Major Music
and Academic Scholarship; Annabel
Smeeth (Salisbury Carhedra;
School); Major Music Scholarship;
Saskia Botlord (Garden House,
London); Academic Scholarship;
Saskia Botlord (Garden House,
London); Academic Scholarship;
Saskia Botlord (Garden House,
Sonia Friel (Brighton & Hove HighSchoolarship; Academic and Music
Scholarship; Hannah Thomset (St
Andrews, Eastbourne); Music
Scholarships: Isabelle Appleyant
yong (Roedean); Founders' Awards:
Gillian Sarvan (St Anselm's,
Derbyshire), Sasaya Stunasashoon
St Andrews, Eastbourne), Lara
Edwards (Oldfield Junior School,
London), Emint Hughes (St Hillary);
Godalming, Irma Endrolono (Mill
Hill County High, London), Sart
James (St Andrews, Eastbourne),
Harrise Mathams (Skippers Hill
Manor, Mayfield), Anana Nwuba
Rordle House, Lymington), Mikin
Shah (Arnetican School of Sombay),
Yan Wu (St Nicholas Primary,
Shighton),
Shift Form Scholarships and Awards
Malor Scholarships and Awards
Malor Scholarships and Awards
Malor Chapter (Engl.) Chapt.

ship form scholarships and Awards
Major Scholarships: Raren Chan
Physics (Chemistry), Kanna Davies
(English/Thearre Studies), Bernet
Hughes (Music), Tanya Tillen
(Stology/English); Scholarships;
Heighes (Music), Tanya Tillen
(Stology/English); Scholarships;
Heighes (Music), Scholarships;
Heigh Ho (Music), Studies (Matha),
Grace Ker (Art and Design), Maillan
Mahnani (Linia), Ruth Taylor
(Stology/Physics), Claire Tripp
(English), Cathrina Yu (Business
Studies), Awards: Raya Al-Bader
(Blology/Chemistry), Victoria
Bloodyuth (Music), Jessica Chemy
(Prench), Claire Cordier (Thearre
Studies), Allen Dei (German),
Alexandra (Laire-Simpson
(History/Lain), Vivian Yip (Mailsa). Peters Dates

Pamilies interested in Roedean are invited to our Open Mornings on Saturday April 26, June 7, September 20 or November 8, when the new Science Facility, Multimedia Languages Centre and Business Studies Suite can be viewed. The Old Roedeanians' Association Summer Reunion will be held at Roedean on Sunday, April 27, Details available from the School on 01273 603181.

MUSICAL

INSTRUMENTS

Anniversaries TODAY: BIRTHS: Michel de Monssigne,

essayist, Périgord, France, 1533; Thomas Newcomen, inventor of the amospheric seem engine, Dartmouth, haptised this day 1663; René Reamur, inventor and naturalist, La Rochelle, France. 1683; Sir John Tenniel, illustrator smd cartoonist, London, 1820; Blondin (Jean-François Gravelet), tightrope walker, St-Omer, France, 1824; Ben Hecht, novelist and film writer, New York, 1894; Str Peter Medavar, medical scientist, Nobel laureate 1960, Rio de Janeiro, 1915; Brian Jones, rock guitarist, Cheitenham, Gioncester-shire, 1942. DEATHS: Manuel Johnson

astronomer. Oxford, 1859; Alphonse de Lamartine, poet and statesman, Paery, France, 1869; Henry James, novelist, Rye, 1916; Arnold Dolmetsch, musician, Haxiemere, Surrey, 1940; Henry Luce, publisher of Time, Fortune, Life, Phoenix, Arizonsi, 1967. Albert Beary made the first para-chure jump from a plane over Missouri, 1912.

Forty-two people died when a London Underground train crashed at Moorgate station, 1975. LEAP YEAR (Feb 29): BIRTHS: Ann Lee, founder of the American sect of Shakers, Manchester, 1736; Gioacchino Ros-

sini, composer, Pesaro, Italy, 1792. DEATHS: John Whitgift, Archbishop of Canterbury 1583-1604, London, 1604; Edward Frederic Benson, novelist, London, 1940. The St Gotthard Tunnel was completed, linking Switzerland and Italy, 1880. Durch scientists produced solid helium, 1908. Pakistan became an Islamic

republic, 1956. Hugh Heffner opened the first Playboy Club in Chicago, 1960.

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lands mised a sacred pillar of stone in the place where God had spoken with him, and he offered a firsts defining on it and poused oil over it, lands called the place where God had spokens with him wither. Generals 35: 14,15 DESANYA - On 12th February 1997, to Recent and Eichard a lovely chrighter, McKennie Jake, Congressianters from the family.

BAKER-PERG - On Pebruary 24th at The Portland Hospital, to Emily I. Bates and She-Hing Peng, a son, Quinlan, a brother for Zon. HROWN - On 24th February 1997, in Paris, to Gillie (nee Eaworth) and Matthew, 2 William, on Friday 21st February, 2 son, Sain Her EMERTER - On Followay 18th of The Fortland Hospital, to Dem and Lemma a ma, Calle and a daughter, Claire, brother and sister for Jen.

HEICH SHETH - On February 25th 1997, in Hong Kong, to Late and Park, disagree 24th 1997, to Heror and Anthre (see Pastery) and Joseph Bichard, a houter for Anthre

at The Portland Hospital, to Luna and Mohammed, two Sous, Ahmed and Janfar. SHELLEY - On February 23rd at The Portland Hospital, to Jamine (née Hartwell) and

DEATHS

at home, Margaret Efficabeth aped 76, greatly transmit wife of the late Norman Surveill Offic Denty level mother of David and mother to Boger and Paula, elevel in the late and Tom Bourdman. A fond arm and grandmenter and from a mother of the late Pitsford Church, Flistord, hunches, and the Reigh Heart Foundations for the British Heart Foundation for Tuneral Directors, 71 St Glies Street, Northampton NNI 15 cet (01604) 34368.

DEATHS CASO Mary Elizabeth, devoted teacher of English, died peacefully 20th February Francel 1st March 10.30 am Guildford CHAPMAR - John Henry Benjamin CS, RCNC, FERMA, on 25th February 1997 at Lordington Park, Chichester, aged 97. Much loved implead of the law looseby and father of David and jentifier, Service 3 pm Friday, 7th March at Holy Trinity, Bosham, Family and friends most velocase. No threats, douglass to MUL.

February peacefully in Farleigh Bospice, Chelmsford Thankspiring Service at Little Rentifield Church Thunday 6th March at 2.15 pm.

GUNDET Titabeth Anne Particle, died on Tuesday February 25th, pescefully after an filmess beene with great courses. Loving wife of Michael and mother of Johnsy, William and Nicky-Fussel Bartley E. Fessel St. Paul, East Sutton, Kent on Wednesday Much 5th at 11.45 am. Fausly flowers only. Any kind donations to Cancer Research, Further enquiries C/o A.W. Court Funeral Directors - vei: (01622) 250840.

JEAMS - Henry Tendron wilson on 24th February 1997 penercelly at home aged 35. Mach loved husband of joan, 5sther of Michael and Wendy, "Grampy" to Zatherine, Jonathan, James and Rebecca, and a triend of so harry family formed action at St John's Cremetor at St john's Crematorium, Wolding on Wednesday Sth March at 430 pm. Pandly Howest only but dometions, it desired to RMI etc F.W. Caltry & Co. 45 Emagores Road, Weybridge, Surrey KTI3 8FB. Tel: (01932) 842250.

on 24th February aged 88 of Berkill-on-Sea. Sassex, formerly of Sevenaelus, East. Dearity loved laushand of Dovis, father of John and Claire, grandfather and great-grandfather and great-grandfather. The property of the same of Devid, John, Feter and Anderews Church, Wicklams Avenue, Bezhill-on-Sea. Family flowers only. Demarks if each to The National Deaf Binner Puneral Director, 31 Devembing Road, Bezhill-on-Sea. Sea. Canford Magna Parish Church on March 5th at 3pm. Fathly flowers only please described of desired to The National Deaf Binner Puneral Director, 31 Devembing Road, Bezhill-on-Sea.

30th November 1897), Sharker of Personal Action of Personal College of the Temple, London on 24th February 1997 in his 100th year. Private function on 5th March at St Marylebone Commission for Marylebone Commission for Marylebone Commission for Marylebone of the Reyal Pharmscowtich Society of Great Britain, Enquiries to Levertor & Sona, 212 Eversholt Street, London

Brantwood, peacefully on 25th February aged 65 years. Dearly loved hisband and father. Requires Mass on Wednesday 5th March at 12 moon at Sratwood Cathedral, followed by buttal in Ireland. Flowers may be sent do Hugh O'Kans Funesal Directors of house (1922) 131125 edentions in Ewour of the British Heart Foundation may be sent of Branshins may be sent of Branshins. may be sent clo Bemetts (Brantwood) Ltd., 120 High Street, Brantwood, CM14

McDONALD - Peacefully, on February 23rd 1997, Sir Denistr McDonald, CEE, aged 75, beloved husband of Jean and loving father of Jean Anne, Kevan, Hamish and Kiall and a devoted grandiather. Funeral PAGE - John of Dron, Businesse, died with peace and dignity February 26th 1997. Enquiries please to Leonard B. Senh Funcal Disactor, I Heyden, East, Tasses, Sci (0)1823) 272122. First Br. Deep Haber Fletcher K.C.M.G., C.B., on Wall-sain 26th Fatoury 1997, aged 89 years, at Miliford Rouse Marsing Home, Salisbury Private funeral Memorial Service to

functal Memorial Service to be amounced at a later date. Family flowers only, but donations if desired to Sallabury Hospice Care Trust clo UK, Newman Ltd., Griffin House, 55 Winchester Street, Saliabury, SP1 1HL - (01722) 413136. BORRES - Ca Television

25th suddenly but peacefully at Auminster Respiral Medium (Mip) of Kilmington Audinster, Deron, twin sixte to the late Ella. Funeral Service Tagaton Denne Grenatorium on Friday March 7th at 2 pm. No the ERLL Co JF Captu & Son, Maryknoll, Lyme Street, Auminster, Devon 2213 SAU.

BORMEOU - recording = 25th February 1997 at 186th February 1998 Heusanan Robinson. The function of the Church of St Mary the Yingh, Stevington, Beds. on Friday 7th March 2t 12,15pm. Samily flowers only place but it desired donations in the of Bowton for Stevington Church, May be sent to AL & G. Abbott. Funeral Directors, 150 Medical Res. 150 Medical Res.

scort-manufacts - aspectal died Zith February and 75 years at Gurgave Park funding Home after a short illness. All enquirles to Homenito Penseal Services, Duckett Street, Skipton, 8D23 2EJ. Tel: (01756) 792173.

RODICK - On 25th February 1997, Dorsen, aged 80 years Widow of Eric, mother of Jeunifer and Alison grandmother of Caroline Thomas, Christopher Charlotte, Alexander, Rober Thouas, Christopher, Charlotte, Amander, Robert and David, great-grandmother of Holly. Donations in her messory if desired to the E.F.L. or AlCE of Fishwicks Funenal Service, 17 Fark Road, Minthespe, LA7 7aD. Teh (015395) 63108. Mary on 27th Pubruary
with extraordinary council.
Funeral Service at
Northempson Commission
at 11.30 are Wednesday
March Str. Santia arti-

at 11.30 as Wednesday March 5th, tamily only: followed by a Sarvice of Inadasgiving at 3 pm at 8 fartholouser's Castal. Greens Norton. No Dowers, but my desentions should be sent to John White Fonesal Headan, 185-190 water, Northeasts, No.12 6th. They will be sent to your a great help to Fiens during her illness and St Bartholomew's Church, Greens Norton, where Fions was Church Warden.

WHI.SON - Constants, upod 96 years, pencefully at home or Pebruary 20th. Paneral Service on Tuesday March Oh at 1820 see at Woodwalk Cremeterium, Righton, Re-flowers, but donwiness if desired to National Deaf Children's Society 6/o Cooper & Son Funezal Service, 42 High Street, Lawes, (01273) 475557.

WEIDSCHEEF. Peacefully at Britsburgh Royal Influency on Wednesday 26th Rebruary 1997. Entitle Mangaret (Marjorie) MtE not Learmont aged 91 years, Widow of the ten Alma Bassand of the hase Creil William Steer, devoted mother of Anne, Inth and Salty, loving stepmother of Michael and Hispheth, a proud granty and great-grainar. Femeral Service in Preston Linua, on Saturday 1st March at 11.30 m to which all friends are invited. No flowers please but donations if desired to EUKSA. 6 Assument house, London W14 SEL.

YATES - Felicity Mary Einsbeth on 25th February pencefully aged 79. Adred mother of Feter, Fenella and Mandy, grandmother of William, Linda, Smôy and Michelle and great-grandmother. Funeral Service at 2 vm on grandhoother, Funeral Service at 2 pm on Wednesday 5th Manch at the Church of 5t Mary, Liss, List, Level to Funeral Services (Peterpfinid) Ltd., 19 The Square, Peterpfinid, Banda, set: (01730) 262711.

Service for William Re-Service for William Re-Tenton Rowan CS will be held at St John's Church, Ladbroke Grove, London Will on Saturday March 15th at 5:30 pm. THANKSGIVING SERVICES

Thankspiring for Ethabers Benification at a Law's Church, The Assesse, Lew, on Saturday 22and March at June, Call Law College If you what to attend, (0181) 940-2039. SERVICES

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* OBITUARIES

BRIGADIER DAME MARY TYRWHITT

Brigadier Dame Mary Tyrwhitt, DBE, TD, Director of the Women's Royal Army Corps, 1949-50, died on February 13 aged 93. She was born on December 27, 1903.

THE founder-director of the Wornen's Royal Army Corps (WRAC) when it was formed in 1949, Mary Tyrwhitt played an inspirational role in ensuring the future of women in the British Army. The WRAC sprang out of the Auxiliary being sold too* Territorial Service (ATS) which had proved itself in the years of the Second World War.

But in the postwar period it was not a foregone conclusion that a women's corps had a role to play. At a time of uncertainty and doubt for the ATS, it was her advice to the Army Council and her faith in a continuing women's role in the Army that helped to bring the

WRAC into being.
Although she did not herself join the ATS until she was almost 35, Mary Joan Caroline Tyrwhitt came er on September 9, its purpose, to

from a thoroughly martial family — albeit naval, not military. Her father, Admiral of the Fleet Sir Reginald Tyrwhitt, had made his reputation during the First World War as commander of the celebrated Harwich Force of cruisers and destroyers, which was renowned for its buccaneering spirit in con-stant clashes with the enemy.

Her brother, Admiral Sir St John Tyrwhitt, who died at the relatively early age of 56, was a Second World War destroyer commander and Second Sea Lord from 1959 to 1961. Mary Tyrwhitt was therefore brought up much in the traditions of the Senior Service, and as a young girl she travelled the world with her parents.

As war clouds gathered, and it was apparent that, as they had in the First World War, women were going to have to play a role again, she joined the ATS on November 11, 1938, twenty years to the day after the Armistice. The ATS had been established two months earliprovide women auxiliaries to re-lease Territorial soldiers for active service in the event of war.

She soon proved herself to be an

officer of outstanding ability. Her first task was to raise a platoon at Cranbrook, Kent, which was affiliated to The Royal East Kent Regiment (The Buffs).

On the outbreak of war she was in charge, first, of general duties personnel and, early in 1940, was appointed company commander in charge of cooks, clerks and orderlies at Chatham. She was then appointed to be an instructor at the first ATS Junior Officers' School.

This was followed by appointments as chief instructor and the commandant of the NCOs' School (then located at Royal Holloway College in Egham, Surrey) with the rank of Chief Commander. After senior appointments on the staff and on regimental duty, she became Deputy Director ATS as a Controller, and in 1946 took over from Dame Leslie Whateley as

She was immediately faced with the responsibility of advising the Army Council on the possible formation of a new corps of women as part of the Regular Army. It had to be decided to what extent this new corps should be governed by the normal regulations of the Army. There was a good deal of discussion, in which Mary Tyrwhitt played an important part, and it was not until February !, 1949, that the new corps came into being. Senior Controller Mary Tyrwhitt became the first Director,

She was appointed OBE in 1946 and DBE in 1949. She was awarded the Territorial Decoration in 1950. She held the appointment of Hon ADC to King George VI from 1949

Women's Royal Army Corps, in the

rank of Brigadier, retiring a year

to 1950. She retired in 1951, but remained as a member of the WRAC Council for the following three years and also became President of the ATS Dinner Club - an appointment

which she enjoyed for many years. She had served in the Army for more than 12 years and in her retirement joined the Women's Royal Voluntary Service and became an assistant regional administrator in the Southern Region until 1965. She lived for many years in Pewsey, Wilishire, before mov-ing finally to Tiddington near Stratford-upon-Avon.

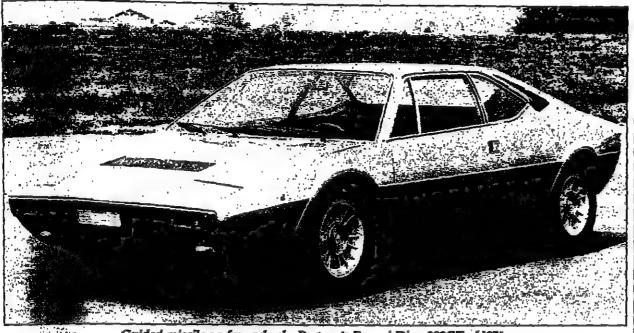
Always interested in the progress of the WRAC, she kept in touch with the corps throughout the years. In 1988, although by then in her eighties, she was very happy to become ATS representative on the committee formed to arrange the 50th anniversary celebrations of the Service.

In that year she travelled up to London for the many meetings. insisted on doing all the tiring walking around the Barbican and gave her fellow members of the committee the greatest pleasure by her unfailing interest, enthusiasm and humour.

She was ummarried.



NUCCIO BERTONE



Guided missile on four wheels: Bertone's Ferrari Dino 308GT of 1976

Nursio Beringe, Halium car body designer, died in Turin on February 26 aged 62. He was born on July 13, 1914.

WITH their characteristic wedge shaped body shells, the designs of Alexand Bertone were familias on several generations of the world's best known high performance cars from the 1950s onwards. The list of manufacturers for which he designed the carrosseria beachwork) reads like a roll of the most famous names in the world of Italian motor sport, though he also designed for companies out-

side halv.
Fiat, Remost, Alfa Romeo, and Lancia wife all among his customer. He had also created another. He had also created car bodies for Gpel, Volvo and Citročiji

Nucen Berane was born into the car body-making world in the backgrant and of the Italian appropriate industry,

Turin. His father had founded his firm Bertone Carrozzeria two years before his son's birth, and as soon as he was able, Bertone junior entered the business. At that stage the company was a family coachwork firm, but after the war Nuccio Bertone set about transforming it from a business conducted on an artisan



scale into a sophisticated industrial plant, capable of operating in international markets. He gradually took car de-sign away from the rounded forms that were the norm in the postwar years to produce

something more angular. His first important body design. the Alfa Romeo Giuletta Sprint, appeared in 1954; only 500 were manufactured for the first production run, but the design became so popular that in the end 40,000 were built. After that, Bertone was into his stride with the Fiat 850 Spider and the Fiat XI/9.

which showed his angular characteristics. The evolution. of the Bertone style continued from the late 1960s onwards with the Ferrari Dino 308 GT4, and in the series of Lamborghinis — Miura, Espada, Countach - highspeed guided missiles on four wheels, seen to best advantage in the glamorous and dramatsetting of the corniche between Ventimiglia and Nice. The Lancia Stratos, which won the World Rally Championship three years running, was another Bertone mandard.

In the 1970s and 1980s Bertone was also involved with Volvo, for which he designed the 262C and the 780. Finally, in the 1990s came his designs for Citroen: the ZX, Xantia and Berlingo. For Opel he had been involved with the Kadet convertible.

From a small family firm Bertone grew and diversified until today the group - which Includes the companies Carrozzeria Bertone, Stile Bertone, Tecnodesign and Socar-les - employs 1,500 workers and has an annual turnover of £450 billion lire (£200 million).

Bertone was married with two daughters. One, Jeanne, an architect by training, is in the firm's creative division; the other, Barbara, an economist, is on the production side.

THEODORE REDPATH

Theodore Redpath, Fellow of Trinity College, Cambridge, died on January 30 aged 83. He was born on August 17, 1913.

A DEVOTED teacher, Theodore Redpath was a distinguished representative of the Cambridge English school. He worked hard and successfully to develop English studies at Trinity, where he was the first Fellow elected in his subject, while also taking his full share in general college and university business.

He exemplified — in an age of

increasing specialisation — the humanist ideal of the scholar with all-round interests and abilities. He believed that all forms of art and thought could attract a developing mind, and that all branches of literature could contribute to one another. Above all, he influenced his students deeply because his learning was coupled with strong intellectual integrity and with the belief that literature, English literature in particular, could and should contribute to the enrichment of life.

Robert Theodore Holmes Redpath was born in London and educated in Cambridge. From the Leys School he went to St Catharine's College, which he entered with a Choral Exhibition, to read English. In 1934 he took a starred first in Part II of the Tripos, as well as sharing the Charles Oldham Shakespeare Scholarship. For postgraduate research, however, he turned to philosophy, gaining his PhD in 1940 with a thesis on Leibniz, under the supervision of C. D. Broad.

After his army years, from 1940 to 1946 (which included service in Intelligence), he considered making his career in the law, and was called to the Middle Temple Bar in 1948. But several colleges made heavy demands on him for supervision in English at this period; and in 1950 he was appointed by Trinity to the first teaching fellowship in English at the college. He became a university assistant lecturer in 1951, and a full lecturer in 1954.

He served the university twice as Senior Proctor, in 1954 and 1959, and was a coilege tutor from 1960 to 1970, besides undertaking other administrative responsibilities for the English Faculty and the Cambridge Union. But it was characteristic of him that he could, in addition, find time and energy for a variety of other interests and pursuits.

He was very sociable and hospitable. He was an unusually gifted linguist, widely read in foreign literatures and widely travelled in Europe, with a particular attachment to France and Spain. He was also a skilful pianist, a keen gardener and an energetic player of games, notably real tennis, which he helped to foster in the university.

As a student, Redpath was influenced by his admiration for I. A. Richards and F.R. Leavis; and he took pride in the acquaintances he formed, as a young man, with Russell, Wittgenstein and G. E. Moore. But he never behaved as anyone's disciple, or restricted himself to a single track of research.

His early training in the close analysis of poetic language is evident in his first book (1956), his annotated edition of Donne's Songs and Sonets (which he later revised and improved), and similarly, in his edition, with W. G. Ingram. of Shakespeare's Sonnets (1964) - though both works show a concern with historical scholarship that might not then have beenthought of as typical of "Cambridge English". They are both editions of lasting value to students.

Another of his leading interests, within the history of criticism, is shown by his thoroughly documented introductions to two collections of contemporary reviews

of the English Romantics, the first edited with Patricia Hodgart in 1964 and the second in 1973. He continued to write articles and give papers on philosophical subjects, particularly aesthetics: and he used his knowledge of languages to good effect. He drew on modern Russian scholarship for his short but perceptive book on Tolstoy (1960); and he took pains to make himself familiar with recent philosophical research for his translation of Sophocies, a labour of love.

It was a mark of the esteem in which he was held that Trinity gave a special concert in honour of his 80th birthday. But Redpath's years of retirement were far from passive. He became an entrepreneur in the wine trade; he took on visiting professorships at several universities in France, Germany, America and Japan: he published a lively personal memoir of his iriendship with Wittgenstein and a study of Broad's philosophy; he had been working on an analysis of Hamlet criticism and more recently on revisions of his translation of Sophocles when he

was overtaken by his final illness. He is survived by his wife, the pianist Sarah Campbell-Taylor, whom he married in 1964, and a son and two daughters.



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THE SUNDAY TIMES

PROFESSOR ROGER TAYLER

Professor Roger Tayler. OBE, FRS, astrophysicist. died of myeloma on January 23 aged 67. He was born on October 25, 1929.

ROGER TAYLER'S PhD thesis on stellar evolution contained some of the first realistic models of how stars evolve as a result of the fusion of hydrogen into helium in their interiors. He obtained all his results on a hand-operated mechanical calculator, taking a month for a series of models which would be produced in a few minutes today.

After a year as a Common-wealth Fund Fellow at Princeton and CalTech, he moved to Harwell in 1955, where he continued to work on problems related to nuclear fusion. At that time there were high

hopes of recreating in the laboratory the same conditions of high temperature and density as occur naturally inside stars and of obtaining a limitless supply of clean ener-gy. The problem then, as now, was to contain the hot plasma without melting the container. Confinement by magnetic fields, which would hold the plasma away from the walls, was believed to be the answer, but the magnetic plasma proved unexpectedly unstable. Independently of parallel work in America and Russia, Tayler wrote a series of fundamental papers studying the problem of stabilising the fields; much of his work

remains relevant today. Tayler was educated at Solihull School, and Clare College, Cambridge, graduating in 1950 and staying on to work

for his PhD under Hermann Bondi. In 1961 Fred Hoyle persuaded him to return from Harwell to Cambridge, where he was a Fellow of Corpus Christi College. During this time, he collaborated with Hoyle and with Stephen Hawking on problems of nuclear astrophysics and cosmology. He developed an abiding interest in the origin of all the chemical elements, and was prescient in

amount of light elements produced in the early Universe to the precise value of the neutron half-life and to the number of types of neutrino.

Tayler was appointed Professor of Astronomy at the University of Sussex in 1967. He was an outstanding Director of the Astronomy Centre for three six-year stints.

stressing the sensitivity of the

His early work on magnetic stability in hot plasmas was later applied in a very interesting way to magnetic stars, and he continued to work on stellar evolution, nuclear astrophysics and cosmology. Most recently, he turned to a study of the chemical evolution of galaxies.

Tayler was successively secretary, treasurer and president of the Royal Astronomical Society. He was appointed OBE in 1990 and elected FRS in 1995.

His many books, especially The Stars: Their Structure and Evolution (1970) and Galaxies: Structure and Evolution (1978), were much used by several generations of students. His presidential lecture was turned into a book, The Sun as a Star (1996). He is survived by his wife Moya.

THE KING AND QUEEN IN THE CITY.

OPENING OF THE NEW CENTRAL CRIMINAL COURT.

The ceremony of opening the new building of the Central Criminal Court was performed yesterday by the King. The building, it will be remembered, supersedes that familiarly known as the Old Bailey, and stands upon the site of what was once the frowning and fortress-like structure of the famous Newgate Prison. As the chief criminal Court in the country, and one with a long and remarkable history, a special interest at all times attaches to the Old Bailey, but the proceedings of yesterday, graced as they were by the presence of the King and Queen, possessed a significance which it would be difficult to overrate.

The spectacular part of the proceedings was very impressive, notwithstanding the fact that the new building does not lend itself well to such a ceremony as that which was performed within its walls on this occasion. The halls for there are two of there - in which the speciators assembled, have been constructed with a view to the convenient transaction of business, and not to the accommodation of a large number of visitors intent upon witness-

overrate ...

ON THIS DAY

February 28, 1907 类型统治性

The architect was Edward Mountford: the figure of Justice above the dome and the pignic of Justice above the dome and the sculptured figures above the main entrance were the work of F.W.Pomeroy. The cost was about £300,000. During the Second World War the building was twice hit by bombs.

mg the details of a stately pageant ... Of the interior itself one can only say that, far from being gloomy and severe, it is rich to the point of magnificence. Its floors, walls, and stair-cases are constructed of costly marbles and

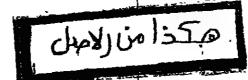
alabaster...

The address from the Corporation was then read by the Recorder... The Lord Mayor, having received the address from the Recorder, knelt and delivered it to the King.

The King, in reply, said:
It is a source of great gratification to the
Queen and myself to preside at the opening of

the new Central Criminal Court ... The building which we shall presently examine with the greatest interest is not only of handsome exterior, but is, I am confident, admirably fitted in every way for the purpose admirably fitted in every way for the purpose for which it is designed. The great increase in the population of the metropolitan area which has taken place in the last half century renders the old buildings far too confined for the proper performance of the duties for which they were at one time adequate; and this noble edifice, erected by the City of London entirely at its own expense, will, I am sure, amply fulfil its high purpose by giving convenience and dignity to the administration of justice in the interests, not only of the inhabitants of its numediate district, but of the vast urban population that has accumulated vast urban population that has accumulated in the adjacent counties. The old buildings which have now been replaced were, however, of high historical interest, for they witnessed during the century of their existence a change in the administration of criminal justice far greater than has taken place in any preceding cenuny. The barbarous penal code which was deemed necessary 100 years ago has gradually been replaced in the progress towards a higher civilization by laws breathing a more humane spirit and aiming at a nobler purpose. (Cheers) ...

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THE TIMES TODAY

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NEWS

Uister deal to protect Major

The Ulster Unionists threw John Major the lifeline that should keep him in power until May I after the Government agreed to increase the powers of the special parliamentary committee that monitors Northern Ireland.

The deal was announced by the Ulster Unionist leader, David Trimble, who made clear that he saw no point in trying to force an early election

Tebbit accuses 'tacky' Heseltine

Michael Heseltine has been accused by a former Cabinet colleague of conduct that is "tasteless, tacky if not dishonourable and self-centered beyond even the call of his profession". In a withering attack on the Deputy Prime Minister, Lord Tebbit cites as an example what he sees as Mr

Rugby defence

A rugby union star who challenged his suspension won a court ruling that opens the way to similar actions against sporting bodies whose decisions affect players' livelihoods Page 1 Cloning inquiry

Jacques Santer, president of the European Commission, asked officials to investigate whether there was a need for joint action to regulate geneticsPage 2

Jury challenge

Michael Howard embarked on another confrontation with the legal profession by proposing curbs on the right to trial by jusy and other changes to the criminal justice system. _ Page 4

Open prisoner

Valerio Viccei, the man behind the Knightsbridge safe deposit robbery, told how he swapped a cell at Parkhurst for a life of virtual freedom under the Italian prison system... Page 5 Health costs

A judge rejected accusations by

the families of four haemophiliac boys that health authorities had unlawfully refused to fund treatment with an expensive blood clotting agent... ... Page 6 Education costs

Leading universities will have to forfeit E12 million in grant to reduce cuts at less successful Page 8 institutions

Artistic image

A sculpture incorporating nine pints of an artist's blood, a gory image of dismembered limbs and a portrait of the Moors murderer Myra Hindley are to be shown at the Royal Academys Page 9

Turkey warning

A room of angry generals will today warn Necmettin Erbakan. Turkey's pro-Islamic Prime Minister, not to tamper with Turkey's pro-Western character Page II

Clinton question

As the FBI broadened its investigations into President Clinton's fundraising, the most asked question in Washington was why one of his oldest allies had spilt the .. Page 12

Wagner family row

Two angry great-grandchildren of Richard Wagner have begun a new round in the long soap opera family feud over the legacy of the German composer Page 13 TV 'corruption'

France's leading television sta-

tion, TFI, was caught up in corruption allegations as its chairman was charged with misuse of corporate fundsPage 14 Royal debate

The House of Orange, one of the most popular and placid monarchies in Europe, is facing a republican assault from a powerful group of Dutch businessmen and

Flying visit down memory lane

Ezer Weizman left home in Haifa in 1942 to join the RAF in Egypt. Yesterday the Israeli President returned as a guest to RAF Cranwell in Lincolnshire which he described as the pinnacle of his three-day visit to Britain. He could not resist pulling off his overcoat and climbing up to squeeze into the cockpit of a Hawk jet trainer.



Diane Blood with her parents in London yesterday after she heard that she can take her husband's sperm abroad. Page I

BUSINESS

Marks & Spencer, Marks & Spencer plans to open £400 million of stores around the world over the next three years

Films: Carlton Communications, the ITV company, has emerged as one of the leading contenders for Rank's film distribution business... . Page 23

Cost of demorphing: British Gas lost £571 million in its last full year of trading before demerging. Restructuring costs were .. Page 24

Markets: The FT-SE 100 index rose 9.9 points to close at 4339.2. Meanwhile, sterling's tradeweighted index fell from 98.6 to 98.2 after it went down from \$1.6338 to \$1.6275 and from DM2.7587 to DM2.7500

Football: Dave Bassett left Crystal Palace to become general manager of Nottingham Forest. Stuart Pearce will continue as Forest's caretaker player-coach..... Page 44 Rugby union: Brian Ashton, formerly with Bath, received an un-

precedented six-year appointment

as coach to Ireland, a period that

will cover the next two World Page 44 Cups. Gott: José María Olazábal had a 69, four strokes behind the leaders, in the Dubai Desert Classic. It was his first competitive round for 17

Page 44. Rugby league: Unless a possible legal challenge is successful, Central Park, the home of Wigan since 1902, looks set to become a supermarket...

Bold Bard: Benedict Nightingale enjoys an RSC production of the rarely seen Cymbeline that effectively dispels any doubts about the _.Page 31 quality of acting...

Faust food: In Hammersmith Jeremy Kingston ponders one of the deepest questions of our time whither humanity? - but gets littleenlightenment from a revised version of Faust Page 31

Wobbly cycle: The 2ft programme was nearly the most striking thing about Passages, a song cycle performance with pretensions to being a "happening" at the Queen Elizabeth Hall Page 32

Pop promise: Biggest album disappointment of the week is UZ's Pop. which promises much but doesn't

young readers is

to win tickets

to Space Jam

of the British

film industry

offering a chance

DIRECTORY

Hailing the comeback

1015

Hot ticket: Valerie Grove interviews Sam Mendes, a young man full of charm and quick intelligence, about his speedy rise to the top in the world of the ...Page 17

Cool capital: It takes more than a. few headlines and outlandish venues to be convinced that London is really swinging again Page 16

Teaching headteachers: The ambitious idea of giving lessons in the art of being a head should include training in accountancy and computer skills

League tables that lie: Why a village school in Essex took the decision to challenge the Government in the High CourtPage 35

Look at our public sector, which

still remains one of the most important in the industrialised world. The 'elite' have instituted for their greater profit a society of unlimited responsibility in which we are all — La Figaro floundering The list of folks the president had in

for coffees and sleep-overs and the rest are pretty impressive. There are people on the list whose presence not even the White House is happy to defend any more crooks. sell if only the right was interested .

Preview: Jack Davenport and Juliet Aubrey with unhappy families. Catherine Cookson's The Moth (ITV, 9pm). Review: Matthew Bond on a psychedelic experience that made him groan..... Page 43

Ankara coup fever

President Demirel has no power to dismiss the Prime Minister. But he and the army officers can warn him of the dangers of his political _Page 19 course ...

Cash for answers

The days when only economics dons talked about money have long since passed. The issues of overall funding levels and the internal allocation between institutions now dominate academic life.....Page 19

Modern Medicl

If people hate the work, so be it. And if Mr Saatchi increases the value of his collection by opening it, good luck to him ...

MATTHEW PARRIS

I say to Lord Jenkins - what none of the present Cabinet can say that his road leads inexorably to the emergence of the English Conservative Party and precisely the "little England chauvinism" that he and I so fear..... _Page 18

TESSA BLACKSTONE We are pre-eminent in almost every field of the arts and cultural innovation, what Tony Blair called "the creative economy".....

PETER RIDDELL

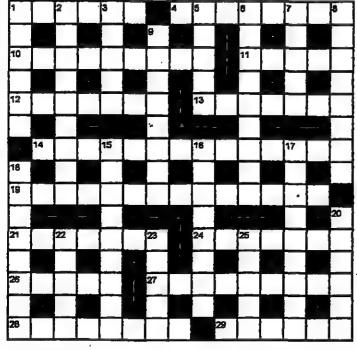
The idea that there was once a golden age of honour when ministers accepted responsibility for every act of the civil servants in their department is nonsense.....Page 10 LYNNE TRUSS

Whars it like in the family enclosure of a football stadium? It's brilliant. A bit draughty, and a bit weird, but brilliant... ... Page 42

Brigadier Dame Mary Tyrwhitt, Director of the Women's Royal Army Corps; Nuccio Bertone, car body designer; Theodore Redpath, Fellow of Trinity College, Cambridge.

Vanunu pies: crime and punish ment; Deng's funeral committee;

THE TIMES CROSSWORD NO 20,415



ACROSS

- 1 Tom heading East to find god-
- dess (6). 4 Wide range of crompets cooked
- 10 Incense little woman with three sons a moment after (4,5).
- Author left cover (5). 12 Be inclined to multile beat that's
- noisy (7). 13 Sea creature found where boat
- may be moored (7). 14 Peerless debating (5,2,7).
- 19 Group that may be produced by listing an elite (14).
- 21 Fool jester's doubled up? (7).
- 24 Recover pound pinched by lout
- 26 Old writers found in dusty librar-
 - Solution to Puzzle No 20,414

- 27 Revolting slave in old city caught by us (9). 28 Fix a typing error initially in this
- 29 He is patromised by those who
- pull the strings (6).
- 1 Greeting sailor's act of piracy (6).
- 2 Search for way to throw a fight 3 Examine a protective coat (5).
- 5 First of patients agreed to be given a jab (5). 6 Claim this arrangement is way to
- control budget (4,5). 7 Open up headless fish (5).
- 8 Parts of motorway followed by East European citizen (8). 9 After six runs is dismissed, upset-
- ting top players (8). 15 Thus reduced his time for game
- of cards (4,5). 16 Church manse's rebuilt for bishop, possibly (8).
- 17 Not many are involved in this, as a rule (9). 18 What tourists do in one spot after
- another (8). 20 One who morally judges, say, this
- smoker in church (6). 22 Save a place for the rest of the drivers (3-2).
- 23 Opera to study there's no end to 25 Print showing burning house (5).

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HIGHEST & LOWEST

☐ General: a band of cloudy weather with outbreaks of rain will work south across all parts of England and Wales during the day. It will be followed by brighter conditions and showers, the showers mainly in the west. Scotland and Northern Ireland will

be bright with blustery or squally showers in the west, and sleet or snow on hills, it will be dry with bright periods in eastern areas. Persis cloud and rain is expected in northwest Scotland and Northern ireland later in the day.

☐ London, SE England, E Anglia, Central S England, E Midlands, Channel Isles, SW England: bright morning, then patchy rain from north. Winds fresh or strong, southwest. Mild. Max 12C (54F).

☐ E England, Central N England, NE England, Borders, Edinburgh

& Dundee, Aberdeen, Moray Firth: patchy rain or showers then bright and mostly dry, sunny inter☐ W Midlands, S Wales, N Wales, NW England, Lake District, tale of Mans rather cloudy. rain or drizzle clearing, isolated showers later. Winds fresh or strong, westerly. Chilly. Mex 9C (48F). SW Scotland, Glasgow, Central Highlands, NE Scotland, Argyli, NW Scotland: cloudy, Rain

vals. Winds strong, gusty, wast. Chilly. Max 10C (50F).

or showers, wintry on hitis. Winds strong to gale, southwest. Chilly. Max 9C (48F). Orkney, Shetland: rein at first

then showers and bright intervals. Winds strong to gale, wasterly. Cold. Max 7C (45F). LIN Ireland: bright or sunny Intervals, turning showery then rain later. Winds strong to gale, south-west. Cold. Max 9C (48F).

Outlook rain or showers, mainly in the North. Becoming more settled

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IN THE TIMES Our magazine for

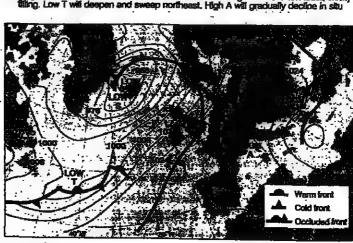
bag men, people with schemes to The Tube: devolution: cloning: - Washington Postx | quarantine reform... Sunny Sunny Cloudy **Drizzje** Overces Rein Sunny M 4 4 showers

Snow Wind speed

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Lightning

Changes to chart below from noon: lows R and S will merge and drift northeast, slowly filling. Low T will deepen and sweep northeast, High A will gradually decline in situ



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INSIDE SECTION

TODAY

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ECONOMICS

Anatole Kaletsky looks at Labour's true intentions **PAGE 27**



EDUCATION

League tables can give the wrong picture PAGE 35



SPORT

Henman's ranking will fall after defeat by Korda **PAGES 39-44**

TELEVISION AND RADIO **PAGES**

42, 43

BUSINESS EDITOR Lindsay Cook

FRIDAY FEBRUARY 28 1997

M&S lays out plans for £400m overseas shops spree

By SARAH CUNNINGHAM

MARKS & SPENCER is to open its largest franchise store next month and is planning an ambitious £400 million programme of store openings around the world over the next

three years.

The new 31,000 sq ft istanbul store is the second to be opened there and is four times the size of the existing store. It will open on March 21 and will be run by Turkpetrol

BY ROBERT MILLER

BANKING

CORRESPONDENT

ABBEY National, the retail

high street bank that yes-

terday reported a 20 per cent

rise in annual pre-tax profits to f1.3 billion, will today table its formal bid for Scottish Amicable, the mu-

Lord Tugendhat, chairman of the building society-turned bank, said: "We will be sub-

mitting a firm proposal. The next stage will be a discussion

period, with final binding

proposals to be submitted by a

deadline in mid-March. An

announcement is likely to-

The Abbey chairman de-

clined to say how much his bid

was worth but it is believed

that it has been raised from in

initial sighting shot of ELA

billion to pearer the rival offer from the Prudential of El.9

billion. Natwest amounted

this week that it had with-

drawn from bidding because

ed its final dividend to 17.4p,

payable on May 6, to give a 20

per cent rise in the full-year

payout to 26.ip, believes that its "Scottish" card could win

the day and more than double

its funds under management

of Abbey National, has al-

ready pledged that "no Scot-

tish Amicable director will

lose their seat on the board

even if they oppose us. A.

similar promise was made -

and kept - to Scottish Mutual

directors when the Abbey

acquired it in 1992. Michael

Forsyth, the Scottish Secre-

tary, is known to be taking a

Peter Birch, chief executive

Abbey National: which lift-

the price was too high.

to £22 billion.

wards the end of March."

tual insurer.

Keith Oates, deputy chairman of Marks & Spencer, said: "We have really pressed the accelerator on. overseas expansion," in Europe, new openings are likely in Luxembourg and Belgium, while in Germany, where the first Marks & Spencer store opened last year, Mr Oates foresees 20 to 30 stores, with one in each major city.

and, because it prefers to own the freehold on its UK stores, spending on expansion is set to remain higher in the UK than abroad.

Overseas, the company is studying the Latin American market. First openings there are likely to be in Brazil, Argentina, Chile and Peru, followed possibly by Mexico. Taiwan is under consideration and, three years after deciding it was too

Abbey National to table

formal bid for ScotAm

company has also opened an office in Shanghai. But, Mr Oates said that it is keen not to move into China too soon, and not before customers

have sufficient spending power. Mr Oates, who last night delivered the annual UK Innovation Lecture, which is sponsored by the Department of Trade and Industry, the Confederation of British Industry and others, told the audience that Marks & Spencer is likely to countries in four years from now. There are now 86 franchises in 24 countries. The company has recent-

ly announced plans to open fran-chises in the Arab Gulf and in Australia. The next wave of overseas openings is likely to comprise a mixture of franchises and companyowned stores.

In his speech last night, Mr Oates said that franchising had been adopted because "globalisation of

expand abroad quickly, but we had to find the right way to be successful in difficult markets. We will eventually trade in Japan, China, India and Latin America but, for different reasons, in each case the timing has not been quite right yet."

Mr Oates said that Russia and former Soviet republics were not yet included in the overseas expansion plans. But he added: "We will be in those places in ten or 15 years' time."

BUSINESS

TODAY

FTSE 100 .. 4339.2 (+9.0) 3.65% Yield 3.65% FTSE M chare 2119.74 Nikkei 19021.56

1,8885* 6,6955* 1,4757* 120,76* 103,3 Tokyo ciose Yen 120.92 HONTH SEA OU.

GOLD. London olose,.... \$369.85 (\$355.85

Gas loss British Gas lost (57)

Societies Bill set to be law before election

THE long-delayed Building Societies Bill is finally to be laid before Parliament today and is expected to become law before the general

With the backing of Mike O'Brien. Shadow Economic Secretary to the Treasury, the Bill, which will give building societies more freedom to expand into new areas such as general insurance, is expected to pass through the Commons unopposed.

Labour, however, will put forward an amendment to have a clause inserted on a two-year rule to discourage so-called "carpetbaggers" from making a quick profit should a society shed its mut-ual status and become a bank, Mr O'Brien said: "We want to stop mere speculators from benefiting from conver-sions and that is why we think only members of two or more years' standing should receive donuses. Un the tion of conversion, that it a

matter for members." The most controversial clause in the Bill, put forward by Angela Knight, Economic Secretary to the Treasury, concerns the five-year protec-tion against hostile takeovers

afforded to societies that be-

chief executive of the Bradford & Bingley, which welcomed the Bill, said: "We do not see why converted societies should enjoy a protection

which no other public company is afforded." Brian Davis, the chief executive of the Nationwide, which is soon to become the United Kingdom's largest building society, said: "When it becomes law, the new Building Societies Act will benefit mil

come public companies. The new Bill will remove that

protection, but only if a new

bank makes a takeover bid for

"any authorised financial

Christopher Rodrigues, the

institution",

lions of customers. "It will enable Nationwide, and all other building societies committed to remaining murual, to continue to provide strong competition benefits consumers."

Mr Davis added: "Imporiantiv, it will also remove the unfair anomaly which currently allows the converting societies to embark upon an aggressive acquisition programme, whilst at the same time protecting them from takeover for five years."

B&W payout, page 24 | Page 28

Why now's

the time

to PEP across

the Channel

1,6271 2,7492 9,2719 2,4063 196,70

Brent 15-day (May) \$19.15 (\$19.30

million in its last, and most difficult, year of operation before demerging into Centrica and BG.

Lex leaps

Lex Service, Britain's largest motor dealer, raised pre-tax profits to £51.4 million on sales steady at £1.56 billion, Vehicle leasing and importing offset slow growth in the sale of new cars from dealerships.

ABN Amro director admits | Carlton in running offering a job to Horlick

the bid were to fail the Abbey

indicated that it would look

elsewhere and market specu-

lation has it that its next target

could be Norwich Union.

which plans to make its stock

in 1996 the Abbey saw

earnings per share increase by

16 per cent, to 59.8p, but that

was excluding the fol million

integration costs arising from

last year's takeover of the

National & Provincial Build-

keen personal interest in the ing Society (N&P). The target outcome of the ScotAm bid. If of driving up to half of the

market debut in the summer.

A SENIOR director of ABN Amro has confirmed that the Dutch bank approached Nicola Horlick the former Morgan Grenfell fund manager, with a job offer.

Rijnhard van Tets, a mem ber of the managing board of ABN Amro, which yesterday unveiled annual pre-tax profits up 25 per cent to £1.6 billion, is the first director to contirm formaily that the bank held talks with Ms Horlick. However, he denied trying to poach Ms Horlick's team from Morgan Grenfell Ms Horlick was suspended from her job last month amid allegations by Deutsche Morgan Grenfell that she breached her contract by trying to persuade her successful fond



Horlick suspended

anagement team to join her. She left saying she had been constructively dismissed. meeting with Ms Horlick

about her herself and not her

poaching teams and I would never have done that. Nor would I try to disrupt their

group's profits from business-

es outside of the core savings

and loan market by the year

2000 continued on track at

around 42 per cent. The con-

sumer credit division chipped

in a 100 per cent profit increase at £98 million, while

life assurance business was up

44 per cent to £151 million and

Treasury and offshore man-

E256 million.

aged an 18 per cent hike to

On the more traditional

front the Abbey increased the

number of bank accounts by

Ms Horlick told The Times last night: "I did meet Rijnhard van Tets unexpectedly at the Lanesborough Hotel in London on the evening of Wednesday January 8. He basically said that he would like me to run the global asset management business of ABN Amro." The former Morgan Grenfell fund manager said Mr van Tets had been concerned because "he did not want to moset Deutsche Bank as he felt it could jeopardise the working relationship between the two banks after the introduction of a single Euro-

to buy Rank films

BY ERIC REGULY AND ALASDAIR MURRAY

CARLTON Communications. the ITV company, has emerged as one of the leading contenders for Rank's film distribution tiumes

about 113,000, to 1.6 million.

and since the launch of its

own-branded credit card in

February last year has opened 115,000 accounts, added to

which are some 331,000 for-

After the co-operation agree-

ment signed last November

with Safeway, the UK's third-largest retailer, to give access

to the supermarket's 6 million ABC loyalty card holders, the

Abbey will next week launch a

new initiative linked to

Safeway's card holders. Lord

mer N&P accounts.

Profitable partnership: Peter Birch, left, chief enecutive of Abbey National, and Lord Tugendhat, chairman, yesterday

Cariton would not confirm or deny that it was among the bidders for the business. which was officially placed on the auction block last week. But sources familiar with the sales effort said that Carlton, whose chairman is Michael Green, is in the running.

Analysts have predicted that the pricetag could reach £100 million. But Rank has dampenend expectations by pointing out that the rights to many of the more popular films in the library have already been sold. The busiof £22 million, could go for as

Tugendhat said: "This will be

followed by a debit card, a

credit card, and eventually by

in-store banking. The arrangement will be a key factor

in substantially increasing our

market share of banking,

credit and debit card custom-

The market has come to

expect "solid" results from the

Abbey and the shares closed

Pennington, page 25 City Diary, page 27

up 412p last night, at 768p.

ers by 1999."

little as £50 million. The Rank catalogue is best known for the Ealing comedies, the Carry On films and other classics, such as the original The 39 Steps and Lord Olivier's Henry V. Recent suc-cesses include Strictly Ballroom and The Madness of King George III.

Rank's film distribution business is expected to be sold by the late spring.

Carlton and Hampton Trust, the property developer. want to build a £200 million glass-domed leisure complex on the six-acre site occupied by Central Television Studios next to the Alpha Tower and

the Crown Plaza hotel in Birmingham city centre.

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Source: Micropal, Performance figures based on saling prices to 3.2.97 with gross income retirested, 5 year performance: £12,945, an average amount entern of 16,44%. It 2% decount on the buying price of units in the Fund on meastments of £1,000 or more in the Mecruy 1956/7 RFP. It The Mercury European Growth PEP is managed by Mercury Asset Menagement pic, which is regulated by MRFD, it resists in the Mercury Fund Menagers Ltd regulated by MRFD, and the Personal Investment Authority), which is the unit trust management among Mercury Asset Menagement pic on member of the Mercury Materialing Group, It This advertisement is issued by Mercury Investment Services Ltd. 33 King William Street, London EC4R 9AS, which is regulated by the Personal Investment Authority and represents only the Mercury Merketing Group and its papilaged produces which include unit trusts, PEPs and personals. It Penagement that the value of investments and the norme form them they but as may and you may not get book the amount you invest. It Past performance is not necessarily a guide to the Mutra. It Changes in exchange rates may cause the value of investments to liucitude. Source: Microsel, Performance figures based on selling proces to 3.2.97 with gross income reinvested, 5 year performance: £12.845, an

RTZ-CRA harks back to Rio Tinto roots

Dean Currency."

FROM RACHEL BRIDGE IN CLUMEN

RTZ-CRA is turning the clock back more than 100 years in the quest for a new corporate identity. The mining company is seeking shareholders' permission to change its name back to Rio Tinto, a name first used in 1873. Rio Tinto, or red-wine coloured river,

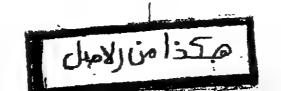
was floated on the London Stock

redevelop the ancient Rio Tinto copper mines in southern Spain. The present dual-listed structure of

RTZ-CRA, resulting from the 1995 merger, will be maintained but Rio Tinto will become the name for the unified group. The name change, however, met with outrage in Australia's financial community which re-gard it as another example of RTZ ex-

has its roots as Conzinc Riotinto of Australia formed in 1962 from the merger of Consolidated Zinc and the Rio Timo Mining Company of Australia. One analyst said: "People will see this as another indication that RTZ is flexing its muscle and it will fuel the belief that the nurger was really just a disguised back door takeover of CRA

per cent drop in full-year net profits to \$1.1 billion for the year to December, in line with expectations. Much of the fall in KTZ-CRA's profits for the year to December was due to lower metal prices and production problems at some of its larger operations. The total dividend rises from 31.5p to 31.71p.



SAVERS with the Bristol & West Building Society for more than two years will get a cash payout worth an average El,100 under the terms of the £600 million takeover by the Bank of Ireland.

Borrowers and those who have been savers for less than two years will get 250 preference shares, estimated to be worth £1 each. The deal, announced on April 14 last year, is expected to go through on July 28 "vesting day".

Details of the takeover will be mailed to the society's one million members on March 7. Two-year savers are those who had £100 in their accounts on April 14, 1996, and who will hold an account continuously from December 31, 1994, until the day

before vesting day. Those that benefit from the preference shares will have access to a free sharedealing facility in the six weeks after the completion

The cash will be equivalent to 6.5 per cent of the lower of the two balances on April 14, 1996, and June 25, 1997, and any other day from yesterday until vest-ing day. A special meeting will be held on April 15 at the Royal Bath & West of England Society Showground, Shepton Mallet.

TOURIST RATES



British Gas signs off with final-year losses of £571m

BRITISH GAS lost more than £500 million in 1996, its final year as a single entity. At the last official function of the now demerged group, Richard Giordano, the chairman, blamed restructuring costs for turning a £130 million pre-tax profit last year into a £571

million loss. The group was plunged into the red by exceptional charges totalling more than El.1 billion in the year to December 31. The renegotiation of two takeor-pay contracts and the losses on long-term gas sales deals accounted for £635 million.

SHARES in Cantab Pharma-

ceuticals yesterday hit a new

peak of 900p as the drug

development company linked

up with the Marie Curie

Cancer Care charity to form a

new biotechnology company

Cantab and MCCC will be

(Paul Durman writes).

Restructuring prior to de-merger, which included halvthe workforce to 35,000, cost £424 million.

Mr Giordano also acknowledged that the group had to launch a costly fightback against "a fall in our customer service level in the last 18 months". British Gas was overwhelmed for much of last year by customer complaints about billings and cut-offs.

This month, British Gas demerged its gas supply business into a new company, Centrica, and changed the name of its remaining gas

Charity link boosts Cantab

joint owners of Phogen, which

will aim to develop VP22, a

protein from a herpes virus

that is potentially a highly

effective drug-delivery mecha-

nism. A team at the Marie

Curie Research Institute has

shown that VP22 is very good

at penetrating cell nuclei. The

gancer.

Should fix

take an

the same period last year. The transport and storage business to BG. Centrica had a pro 1996 results would have been forma loss of El billion last worse if the excessively cold year and BG made a pro weather had not helped to increase sales. Prices in the forms profit of £381 million. commercial and industrial markets are said to be weak. British Cas shareholders will receive an unchanged dividend of 14.5p a share, due

ed to £379 million, compared with a profit of £55 million in

scientists hope that it could be

used to treat a wide range of

diseases by delivering pep-

tides, proteins, DNA and even

conventional drugs to dis-

900p. They began 1996 at 671p after a low of 103p in 1995.

Cantab shares rose 272 p, to

eased cells.

مكذا من رلاميل

The group declined to give estimates of expected future on July 2, but Mr Giordano losses resulting from the rene-gotiation of further take-orgave warning that the dividend level is certain to come down over the next few years. pay contracts. It said that talks Earnings per share of 2.9p with the counterparties in those contracts are continuing last year turned into losses per share of 13p, and in the fourth but no resolution is expected quarter pre-tax losses amountuntil the end of this year.

BG is now gearing up for a Monopolies and Mergers Commission review, scheduled for April, into the new gas-pricing formula proposed by Ofgas, the industry regulator. Philip Hampton, finance director, said: "We have no firm indication that there is any reason for advancement or delay. We're still working on the assumption that it will hit its timetable."

The politically sensitive review could be delayed until May when the general election wili have taken place.

Warning by CBI on Britain's EMU line

INDUSTRIAL EDITOR

BRITISH business may be at risk if "Europhobia" on a single currency damages UK firms access to European markets, the Confederation of British Indus-

try will say today.

The message comes after warnings from a number of companies, including British Aerospace, Unilever and Toyota, over Britain detaching itself from Europe over eco-nomic and monetary union.

While business remains uniccided about whether Britain should join a single currency, UK companies, especially ex-porters, believe no step should be taken that would damage their ability to operate in the EU single market.

Adair Turner, CBI Director-General, will tell business leaders that the UK needs a prosperous Europe in which it can flourish economically. He will say: "We cannot afford to let Europhobia rule."

Speaking at a business breakfast in Cardiff, Mr. Turner will say that if Britain decides not to be part of the first wave of EMU, the tone it strikes will be crucial.

If, even after deciding not to join a single currency early, Britain takes a "positive ap-proach" to it and genuinely keeps open the option of joining subsequently, then UK firms access to the single market is unlikely to be affected.

"But if we stay out amid triumphalist assertions of our superiority and against a background of a wider Europhobia, rubbing our hands with glee at Europe's problems, we could risk Isolation."

To do that would see Britain's views go unheeded, and its in-fluence diminish. "Ultimately, our access to the single market could be at risk - to our enormous economic disadvantage."

Although CBI leaders have been attacked by Conservative Euro-sceptics for being too pro-Europe, Mr Turner will emphasise the benefits EU membership brings to business. He will point out that rather than Europe being an "economic disaster", income per head in Europe has grown faster than that in the US for the past 20 years and Europe's export performance remains

Railway firm to cut jobs, say protesters

A PRIVATISED rail company plans to lay off about 1,400 staff at the two passenger rail tranchises that it was awarded during privatisation, it was claimed yesterday. Campaigners against the sell-off said that MTL Trust Holdings, a bus company based in Liverpool, would cut more than 1,000 jobs from Regional Railways North East (RRNE), about 40 per cent of the workforce, and 350 from Merseyrail. Save Our Railways, a public transport pressure group that received leaked extracts from MTL's bid documentation revealing the planned redundancies, said that the cuts "would leave the railway horrendously understaffed".

MTL, which is to take over the RRNE franchise on Sunday, said that it was too early for it to comment on the exact numbers of jobs that would be lost, but it admitted that "by the end of the franchise term there will be a reduction in the level of staffing".

Partco drives ahead

PARTCO, the car parts distribution group, is paying E103 million for Brown Brothers, the UK's leading supplier of paint to car bodyshops, which it is funding in part by a rights issue that will raise £68.8 million. Parteo also announced annual pre-tax profits of £10.4 million, or £11.6 million before restructuring costs, up from £7.5 million. Underlying earnings rose 22.3 per cent to 22.5p a share. A final dividend of 5.5p, due on May 30, makes a total of 8p, up 14.3 per cent.

Tempus, page 26

Icahn out of Nabisco

CARL ICAHN, the US investor, has raised about \$731 million with the sale of his shares in RIR Nabisco and has apparently abandoned his year-long effort to break up the food and tobacco company. Mr Icahn unloaded his stake of 19.9 million shares at \$36.75 a share, in a sale brokered by Goldman Sachs. The stake was equal to about 7.3 per cent of RJR Nabisco, whose products include Winston and Salem cigarettes, Oreo cookies, Ritz crackers and Lifesavers candy.

ITT to expand hotels

ITT CORP, seeking to thwart a hostile \$6.5 billion bid from Hilton Hotels Corp, has announced plans to add 28 hotels to its core Sheraton business. The move was the second by ITT since it rejected Hilton's offer earlier this month and said it may sell non-core assets to focus on hotel and casino operations. ITT has sold nearly half its 5 per cent stake in Alcatel Alsthorn, the French telecommunications company and is expected to sell its 50 per cent stake in the Madison Square Garden properties.

Whessoe bid success

THE joint Norwegian and Swiss break-up bid for Whessoe, the instrumentation company, headed towards victory yesterday when Siebe, the engineering group, said it would not increase its £46 million offer. Navia of Norway and Endress & Hauser of Switzerland, which are bidding £526 million, bought a further 4.44 million shares to lift their stake in Whessor to 25.6 per cent. Siebe said it could not justify lifting its offer of 155p a share. Whessee is expected to back the 175p from Navia and E&H.

Citicorp bonus is cut

JOHN REED, chairman of Citicorp, the US merchant bank, saw his bonus cut to \$2 billion in 1996, from \$3 billion in each of the two previous years. The annual report shows that his basic pay rose to \$1.5 million to 1996, from \$1.30 million in 1995 and \$1.28 million in 1994. His 1996 bonus was 75 per cent cash, with the rest in shares. Mr Reed exercised options to buy 679,000 shares in 1996, with \$40.1 million in "value realised", the market value of common stock acquired minus exercise price.

Akzo considers offer

AKZO NOBEL, the diversified Dutch chemicals company, said yesterday that it was considering making an offer for Unichema International and Crostield, two of the four specialised chemicals businesses offered for sale by Unilever. Alzo was reporting 1996 net profits little changed at 1.32 billion guilders (about £427 million) on sales up 4 per cent to 22.4 billion guilders. The company said higher profits in pharmaceuticals and coatings were offset by falls in chemicals and fibres.

Linotype-Hell merges

ONE of the oldest names in the British printing industry is to disappear, with the loss of nearly 100 jobs. Linotype-Hell, of Cheitenham, Gloucester, is to merge with Heidelberg Graphic Equipment, the German printing machine company that acquired a controlling interest last. November. Linotype operations are to move to Heidelberg's UK headquarters in Brentford, west London, and to its offices in Tamworth and Leeds. Most of the job losses will be at Cheltenham.

BTP acquisition

BTP, the UK chemicals group, has agreed to acquire PCR, a fine chemicals manufacturer; from Harris Specialty Chemicals Inc for \$72.3 million. PCR specialises in organosilicon and flourine chemistry, and provides specific manufacturing capabilities and a range of fine chemicals. PCR's manufacturing facilities are based in Florida and Puerto Rico. PCR earned operating profits of £6.3 million. PCR will be integrated into BTP's biocides and fine chemicals division.

Memory's loss deepens

MEMORY CORPORATION, the memory chip producer, has done a deal with Sumitomo of Japan to help it to escape the volatile microchip market. Memory, which is switching from selling repaired dram microchips to licensing technology for repairs, said that Sumitomo will arrange at least two licensing contracts a year from 1998. Memory made a £4.5 million pretax loss last year (£1.95 million loss previously) after a collapse in the price of perfect chips hit the market for repaired ones.

WANTED: PEOPLE WHO DON'T KNOW THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN RIGHT AND WRONG.



Could you be a Samaritan? Look at the questions in th photographs, and make a note of your answers.

If your answers were mostly yes, we're sorry to say that you're probably not the sort of person we're looking for. And if you answered mostly no? Surprising as it may seem,

you're probably not right for us either.

But If you weren't sure - if you can resist the urge to make any kind of judgment, moral or otherwise - you might be rust the kind of volunteer we need

To a Samaritan, there are no right or wrong answers. If you hold strong personal views, you leave them at the door. Two different callers, faced with the same problem, might

end up at two different solutions. What we do is help them think clearly, providing space and time to sort things out.

As you expect, being on our end of the phone isn't a laugh a minute. Most Samaritans can only do it for so long, which is why we constantly need new recruits to take their place.

If you'd like to help, please call our Volunteer Line on 0990 62 72 82. For once, we'd be happy to say it's the

The Samaritans

We'll go through it with you.

Bundesbank chief warns on wrong signal for union

tion. He said: "Is an indepen-dent European central bank

THE Bundeshank, in its most sceptical note on monetary union in months, yesterday said Europe has not escaped the vicious circle of excessive government debt and upward pressure on interest rates.

Hans Tietmeyer, Bundesbank president, said most countries were still hemmed in by debts and deficits, threatening stability of the single currency. He said: "The vicious circle of indebtedness and higher interest rate burdens are crowding out other tasks and lead to ever

Speaking in Frankfurt to marketmakers at Goldman Sachs, he said the single currency had yet to win confidence. An easing of the fiscal requirements for monetary union membership would "send the wrong signal" and would create the illusion that the current state of public finances was

Herr Tietmeyer agreed Euro-pean exchange rates had become more stable but insisted the existing institutional structures set out in the Maastricht treaty were not sufficient to prevent a resurgence of infla-



not enough to achieve price stability? This question has to

be answered with an unequiv-

He acknowledged that how-

ever independent, central bankers are still subject to

public pressures. He said:

Therefore it is necessary that

finance ministers in all member countries regain control [over their budgets] and com-mit themselves to achieving

ocal 'nein', in my opinion."

Castle consortium planning to tower over rivals

BBC transmitters in new hands

By Eric Reguly

CASTLE Transmission Services, the group that is to be confirmed today as new owner of the BBC transmitter network, will use the acquisition as a spring-board for media infrastructure develop-ments worldwide. It also plans to spend as much as £200 million on upgrading the service for digital terrestrial TV.

In its first privatisation, the BBC sold the system, which transmits all of the BBC's radio and TV signals, for more than £240 million. Strong competition from bidders, including Securicor, Mercury Accel Management and DTF. cury Asset Management and NTL, the owner of the ITV companies' transmission network, ensured that the price was higher than expected.

Virginia Bottomley, the National Heri-

tage Secretary, said at a media conference yesterday that the proceeds from the sale will be used by the BBC to launch digital TV services, giving the viewer the choice of dozens of channels.

Castle Transmission is a consortium of Castle Tower, a transmission tower construction company in America, Berk-shire Partners, a Boston investment firm, Candover Investments of Britain, and France Telecom. Ted Miller, 45, the millionaire Texan who is chief executive of Castle Tower, is to become chief

executive of the British company. Mr Miller will run a business with few risk factors and considerable opportunity for expansion. The BBC has agreed to remain an analogue client for 10 years and all the mobile phone companies, including Vodafone and Orange, use the

network. Growth will come probably on the digital and overseas fronts.

Mr Miller said that Castle, with the help of an army of BBC and France Telecom engineers, will soon begin to convert the BBC network to allow the transmission of digital signals. It will then compete with NTL to supply digital services to the BBC, ITV, Channels 4 and 5 and British Digital Broadcasting, the digital TV consortium, formed by Carlton, Granada and BSkyB, the satellite broadcaster

lite broadcaster.

Mr Miller believes that the potential for overseas growth is enormous. "Our objective is to become the largest infrastructure company in the world for broadcasting and telephony," he said. The BBC will be our platform to Jaimch

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☐ Long silence over Mirror flotation inquiry ☐ Integrity checks out at Safeway ☐ Not much profit in prudence for the Abbey

AS A MAN who appears to regularly on television, Michael Heseltine knows a thing or two about cosmetic exercises. This is what he was accused of perpetrating when, as President of the Board of Trade, he appointed inspectors to investigate the flotation of Mirror Group Newspapers. Now, more than four and a half years later, and assuming, for a moment, a Labour election victory, there seems to be little thance of this seems to be little chance of this report being completed while Mr Heseltine is still a member of

Her Majesty's Government, never mind published. But one could ask Hezza's successor, Ian Lang, what on earth is going on. The investiga-tion was launched seven months after Robert Maxwell's death in November 1991 and in the teeth of a Serious Fraud Office investigation that everyone knew would lead to prosecutions. So clearly a report could not be published while the court case

was outstanding.
It is now more than four months since everyone accused walked free at the end of the trial, yet there still seems to be no progress. Usually, draft criti-cisms are sent to those being investigated by the inspectors. Although something approaching that happened about a year ago, those who received the rambling conclusions have

Unasked Maxwell questions

inspectors want to do a little more research; they now hope to question those whom judge and jury have cleared. It appears that Kevin Maxwell is now about to be questioned. Up to now, the inspectors may have been a little nervous about approaching him, because he has shown an adept system and the art of publicity.

knowledge of both the legal No doubt he has scrutinised the Ruropean Court of Human Rights ruling on the Ernest Saunders case to make sure just what the DTI's men can and cannot force him to disclose. But you clearly have no chance of completing an authoritative re-port into the Mirror float without speaking to the one living person who knew most about how the Maxwell empire worked — or

So far, the investigation into the Maxwell case has found no one guilty of criminal charges, no one guilty of misleading the market over the share support operation and no one guilty of failing to disclose vital information about how much of a mess

At present, Mirror shares stand 60 per cent above the float price. The pensioners swindled by Maxwell have had their pensions guaranteed in full -those that did not die beforehand. A small number of very unfortunate victims of various legal loopholes have lost out financially; the damage was mainly absorbed by the big City

Perhaps the DTI has reasoned that there is no case to answer? In which case the Maxwell affair will turn out to be that rana avis. a crime with lots of victims, most of whom were compensated, but no perpetrators.

Honest day's shopping

NEVER let it be said that this column only brings bad news. We now provide statistical proof to restore one's faith in human nature. People are honest.

The proof comes from Safe-way, well ahead of its rivals in allowing customers to check off

the goods in their trolleys them-

selves rather than quening for a

PENNINGTON



till. A handy gizmo called Shop and Go is available at more than a quarter of the company's near-400 stores to be carried around and run along the bar codes on each item bought.

This is presented at the checkout, and the customer pays the out, and the customer pays the total registered. The opportunities for shoplifting are obvious an undeclared bottle of Scotch or joint of meat can take a hefty percentage off the weekly shopping bill. So Safeway institutes random checks, a little like that occasional tan on the choulder. occasional tap on the shoulder that used to trouble you when you went through the green

channel at Customs. Anyone whose bills are out of line with the contents of their

trolley can expect to be checked

registered on their loyalty card, and if they are consistently underpaying they can expect to be told to shop elsewhere. But they will not be prosecuted for shopliting. Szieway making the assumption that they have made an honest mistake.

Cynics might expect that ran-dom checks would turn up a larger number of people with trolleys worth more than the tallies on their gizmos, that is, about to be undercharged, than with less and so in danger of overpaying. That was the suggestion from other food retailers, some of who are now experimenting with systems of their own while Safeway rolls the

> But the figures gathered over the 18 months the system has been in operation show only a tiny and statistically insignificant percentage swing. This is surprising because, unless you are intending to be a regular Safeway shopper, the self-checking system makes occasional shoplifting quite easy. There is a small chance of being caught, and no chance of being punished

gizmo out in more stores.

crime, come to think of it. But the huge majority of people are still honest. Enjoy your day.

Getting rid of one Abbey habit

□ ALMOST through the banks* reporting season, and a bumpy ride it has been. Two of the higgest, NatWest and Barclays, saw sharp, and not always justified, share price falls. The market may not have fallen out of love with the sector, but it is certainly becoming more choosy. Those analysts not worried about bad loans if the economy slows are worried about the threat from the supermarkets.

Now Abbey National, whose own figures for 1996 received a grudging thumbs up from the market yesterday, wants more than half of profits to come from non-traditional sources by the end of the decade, even if Scottish Amicable slips from its grasp. Last year these operations, including insurance, consumer credit, treasury and offshore businesses, managed 40 per

cent, so the plan seems achiev-able. It is also understandable once you look at the Abbey's traditional business of lending on mortgages.

This ever-so-prudent business managed to raise net lending stripping out the extra business gained by the National & Provin-cial, by just 2.4 per cent. The company claims to be moving away from discounted mort-gages while cutting out cash-backs for customers who are remortgaging, only using this largely discredited perk to gain new business. But the cost of mortgage discounts and cash-backs still doubled to £187 million between 1995 and 1996. So much for prudence.

Back to the future

☐ THE pendulum swings, and swings back again. Just as the British Gas name disappears in favour of a brutalised BG, so RTZ is reborn in all its glory as Rio Tinto. Could this be the start of a trend? WPP ad men might not take to being rebranded as Wire & Plastic Products, but could British Oxygen Corpora-tion again ply its trade un-truncated? Imperial Chemical Industries may be politically incorrect, but why not London & Scottish Marine Oil? Could we please, please have back British insulated Callender's Cables?

I to expand hotels **British Land to** raise £220m for venture with GUS hers say hid success

BY CARL MORTISHED

BRITISH LAND is reising £220 million in a share issue to fund its investment in a billion pound retail property joint venture with Great Universal

The property group, run by John Ritblat, is spending £200 million for a half interest in a portfolio of high street shops currently owned by GUS and valued at £960 million.

The joint venture is to be financed with £400 million of equity and £560 million of debt but, for a period of about a year, GUS is financing the to that of the previous year.

venture by taking a £500 Net rental income from the million loan note in return for injecting the properties into was selling the portfolio because it lacked the managethe joint venture. On completion the retailer will also be ment team to make the assets perform well. British Land will receive a El million fee for paid £200 million by British Land for its share of the equity. Funding will be sought running the joint venture, as well as its share of the equity. from banks on a non-recourse basis to repay the GUS loan in The GUS properties, which are mainly freehold, comprise

due course. GUS will receive interest on the loan and the joint venture agreement ensures that the retailer's property income in the first year will be equivalent

Aberdeen, as well as some offices, but 77 per cent of the portfolio is high street shops spread across the country. The GUS portfolio will subretail portfolio, which is cur-

rently biased towards food superatores. John Weston Smith, finance director of Brit-ish Land, said that a number of the properties would be sold and that performance could be improved by trading, buying in freeholds and selling sites to occupiers.
"High street shops are very much a growth area. With

properties totals £70.8 million.

several shopping centres, including The Forge in Glasgow and the St Nicholas Centre in

GUS said yesterday that it

restrictions on out-of-town planning we think that this is a good place to invest," he

British Land is issuing 42.8 million shares at 520p each in a vendor placing to institu-tions. The joint venture has no time limit but British Land pointed out that the subordinated debt has a seven-year life. Each party has a right of first refusal if the other wishes to sell its interest in the joint



Sitting more comfortably: Nigel Potter, finance director, left, Claes Hultman and Alan Coppin, chief executive

buys distillery from Allied

ALLIED DOMECO, the drinks company, yesterday sold its Ardbeg whisky distill-ery to Glenmorangie for £7 million (Alasdair Murray

Allied is selling the Ardbeg brand and maturing whisky stocks along with the Islay distillery. The company said it had made the disposal to concentrate its resources on its core brands, which include Ballantine's and Teacher's, as well as Laphrosig, its main

Glenmorangie said that the purchase would strengthen its portfolio of malts, which inchide Glenmorangie and Glen Moray. The company is aiming to regenerate the brand through an intensified marketing campaign.

Glenmorangie Charlton tactic is to sell players

By Jason Nissé

RICHARD MURRAY, chairman of Charlton Athletic, said that the first division football club will sell players to sustain profits after floating on the Alternative Investment Market with a market value of £17.4 million.

The club, of which Michael Grade is a non-executive director, is to raise £6.5 million to complete the rebuilding of its home at The Valley, and will make profits this year only because of the £2.8 million sale of Lee Bowyer to

Leeds United. Mr Murray said that the best Charlton can hope for is to be a "yo-yo" club, winning promotion to the Premiership

shakes up leisure side DAVID THOMAS, chief executive designate at Whitbread,

Whitbread

launched his first big shake-

up at the company yesterday

- restructuring the leisure division into five units (Alasdair Murray writes).

The restaurant division.

which will include Pelican,

BrightReasons, Pizza Hut, TGI

Friday's and Costa Coffee, will

be headed by Richard Samp-

son. Alan Parker will be man-

aging director of the Whitbread Hotel company, which in-chudes the Marriott and Travel

Inn brands. The Beefeater Res-

taurant & Pub chain will be run

by Simon Wood, while Jerry

Walton will be managing di-rector of Thresher, the off

licence. Steve Philpott will con-

tinue as managing director of

the David Lloyd Leisure chain.

only to be relegated a season or two afterwards. "All these clubs who say they are going to win the Premiership are chasing a dream, he said. The chairman said the club

had made £1 million a year on average from selling players developed through its youth policy and would continue to sell players to make profit.

Charlton is the 14th football dub to come to market. The 15th will be Newcastle, which is to launch a prospectus for its float today. Aston Villa, West Ham and Coventry have indicated that they are likely to float in the next few months.

final to Wembley BY ALASDAIR MURRAY THE SUCCESS of the European football championships

Euro 96

brings a

helped Wembley to return to profit last year, ensuring the company can pay its first dividend for four years. The leisure company reported fullyear pre-tax profits of £17.1 million (£8.) million loss). Wembley completed the re-

structuring of its balance sheet and renegotiated banking facilities at the end of last year, enabling payment of a 2p final dividend.

Ciaes Hultman, chairman, said the company is working with football, rugby league and athletics authorities to complete financial and planning arrangements to redevelon the Wembley site as the

new national stadium. The redevelopment is exmillion, with £120 million from a lottery grant. Wembley suggested previously it would place the stadium into a trust and operate the facilities, although the company said yesterday that no final decision on the stadium's owner-

ship had been taken. Profits from the Wembley complex rose 54 per cent to £14.1 million. US racetrack profits rose 35 per cent to £13.9 million because of the success of video lottery terminals at Rhode Island. Wembiey has attracted the Denver Foxes American football team to its Mile High greyhound stadium, ensuring better use of **Explicites**

But profits from UK grey hound racing fell to £2.5 million affected by the National Lottery. Keith Prowse hospitality profits rose to £500,000. Wembley continued to cut debt and gearing fell to 27 per cent (42 per cent).

Liberty plans to expand portfolio

By Marianne Corphey, insurance correspondent LIBERTY International the

South African controlled investment and shopping centre group, increased profits 7 per cent to £100 million in 1996 and said it would consider making acuisitions "If we find the right opportunity However, David Fischel,

managing director, said he felt "under no pressure to go out and spend money" to increase the financial services division, even though the parent company had He said it had been "a

transitional year" for the group known formerly as TransAtlantic Holdings. Donald Gordon, the chair-man, said the shopping centres were benefiting from "a number of favourable social trends".

Earnings per share, before exceptionals, increased 13 per cent to 19.77p (17.56p) on reduced capital after the repurchase and cancellation of 40 million shares in 1995 at 320p each. The dividend has been increased 10 per cent to lop and total share-holders' funds are £2.1 billion. The net asset value increased 16 per cent to 436p (375p) or 445p (395p) on a fully diluted basis.

Tempos, page 26



☑ Intel 200MHz Pentium®Pro Processor 2 32Mb ECC Memory 🗹 2Gb UltraWide SCSI disk 2 3C900 PCI Ethernet card **Ø** 8 speed CD-ROM drive

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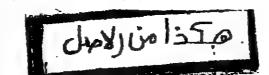
If ever there was a demonstration of the sheer technological might of Mitsubishi, it's the new Apricot FT1200 server. Because nothing can touch it for overall specification at - or anywhere near - the price. In the first place, because the Apricot FT1200 boasts Intel's 200Mhz Pentium Pro processor.

In the second place, because the Apricot FT1200 offers the kind of performance and security features normally found in high-level servers for the price of some desktops.

Like ultra-wide SCSL Like lockable fixed disks. Like the ability to spread data across a number of hard drives or even configure one disk as a "hot spare" to automatically take over from a failed disk. In fact, spec for spec the FT1200 trounces the "equivalent" models from Compaq, Dell, HP or IBM. Which, when you think about it, doesn't make them very "equivalent".

CALL NOW FOR AN INFORMATION PACK





MICHAEL CLARK

Investors shrug off US interest rate worries

investors on the London stock market as they shrugged off worries about a possible rise

in US interest rates. They were no doubt encouraged by the performance of the Dow Jones industrial average overnight, which halved an earlier 120-point fall. Prices in London closed at their best of the day with the FT-SE 100 index up 9.9 points at 4,339.2. A total of 800 million shares were traded.

A program trade was recorded late in the session, with several large lines of stock going through the market. It included 1.2 million Smith-Kline Beecham at 919p as the price rose 9p to 9232p and 4.75 million Prudential Corporation at 5664 p as the price losed 4½ p dearer at 572p.

The big rise in the dividend on the back of a near doubling of profits lifted Lasmo 7p to 246p. But Société Générale Strauss Turnbull told clients to take profits and Credit Lyonnais Laing urged a switch into Enterprise Oil,

10p better at 629p.

There was further heavy turnover in Pilkington as the price rose 3p to 142 p and 3.6 million shares changed hands. A line of 500,000 shares went through at 142p leading to suggestions that a large buyer may be stalking Britain's biggest glass produc er. Bid speculation also helped Reed International to a rise of 225p at £11.50 as turnover reached 1.46 million shares in thin market.

It was a day of mixed fortunes for the banking sector, with Bank of Scotland falling 142p to 34lp after warning that profits from BankWest, its 51 per cent owned Austra-lian subsidiary, would fall short of forecast. NatWest Bank was also a weak market, losing 15p at 759p ahead of going ex the 19.4p net dividend on Monday.

A solid performance from the life and pensions opera-tions of Abbey National helped it to post a solid performance last year. The group reassured brokers that it would not pay over the odds for Scottish Amicable. The shares rose 4½ p at 768p

Standard Chartered continued to reflect on Wednesump of 32p at 8152p. Nat-West Securities, the broker, is telling clients to add to their holdings, while Nikko rates the shares a long-term buy.

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Ray Nethercott saw Allied Carpets share price slip

British Land, the property developer, eased 2's p to 539's p as it placed a total of 42.5 million shares at 520p. The proceeds will be used to fund a joint a £960 million joint property venture with Great Universal Stores, British

Land is paying GUS, 42p dearer at 666p, £200 million for its stake in the venture.

Racal Electronic rose 4p to

Shares in Allied Carpets, of which Ray Nethercott is managing director, fell 12p to 280p as Cinven, the venture capitalist that arranged the original buyout of Carpetland in 1991, disposed of its 10 per cent holding. The shares were placed by ABN Amro Houre Govett with institutions at a price of about 275p.

292p as brokers decided to revise its break-up value. It follows the merger announced overnight in the US between between Freecom and US Biotics, two data companies. Brokers in London say the merger helps to crystalise the value of Racal's data interests, making the prospect of a break-up situation all the more feasible. Credit Lyon-

of an auction developing in the battle for control of Whe proved short-lived. Siebe, 35p dearer at 9682p, has said it will not be increasing the terms of its 155p a share offer. It follows a higher offer of 175p a share from Navia, of Norway, and Endress & Hauser. a Swiss company. Whessoe was unchanged at 175p

now put a break-up value on

Racal of 386p a share.

David S Smith, a takeover

favourite, was left nursing a

fall of 10p at 242p after Merrill

Lynch, the broker, urged di-

ents to reduce their holdings.

It has also cut its forecast in

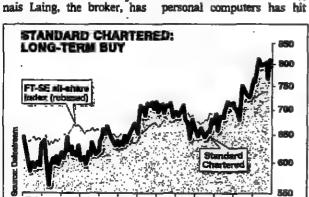
the paper group for the cur-

rent year by £15 million to £85

million and for 1988 by £20

million to £115 million. Hopes

The slowdown in sales of



Memory Corporation, where losses last year grew from
£1.95 million to £4.5 million.
The price fell 7p to 45½p. Pace Micro Technology
slipped another lp to 85p, stretching the loss of the past

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Frankfurt

Paris:

Zariere

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Q mile

Closing Prices Page 29

two days to 72p. It follows the group's second profits warning in less than a month and the departure of the chief It was the first day of

trading for a church of new companies. Nord Anglia Education Group was placed at 140p and opened at 157p. ar 140p and opened at 157p.
The price touched a peak of 1664p before closing at 1644p, a premium of 244p.
Howle Holdings made its debut opening just 4p higher following a placing at 28p. The price closed at 20p. a premium price closed at 30p, a premium

f 2p. Hanover International, the hotelier, was steady at 159p. Whispers in the Square Mile suggest the group is poised to make a sizeable acquisition.

Wedderburn Securities the property developer that is listed on the AIM, was suspended at 24 p. It has agreed to acquire an oil trading company. Trading in the shares has been frozen until the deal can be finalised.

☐ GILT-EDGED: There was a sharp flattening of the yield curve as shorter-dated issues remained overshadowed by comments from Alan Greenspan, chairman of the Federal Reserve, about US interest rates.

Prices made a cautious start and were in danger of accelerating the losses after publication of worse than expected US durable goods numbers. But perversely, investors saw this as an opportunity to buy the market. The best gains were seen among longer-dated is-sues where rises of about £12 were commonplace.

In the futures pit, the March series of the Long Gilt put on E916 to close at £113732. The total number of contracts comeleted grew to 120,000 as investors continued to roll over open positions in March to the June series. In longs, Treasury 8 per cent 2015 put on £1732 at £1065s, while among the shorts, Treasury 8 per cent 2000 could muster only a rise of three ticks to □ NEW YORK: Wall Street shares were little changed in late morning trading. At midday, the Dow Jones industrial average was down 11.54 points at 6,971.64.

New York (midday): 6971.64 [-11.54] Land of hope Hong Kong: (3546460 (+4,77)

exciting chain stores.

property company is buying a thousand separate assets, ranging from minor shop-ping centres to end of high street units. Meanwhile, the Glasgow shopping centre faces competition from a new development. It is a pick and mix portfolio left with GUS when the group exited from some of its less than

Retail is the big play in property at the moment but to say that retail is hot is as meaningful as bullish forecasts of the housing market, it all depends on what and where. Good shopping centres trade on yields of 6 per cent or less but take a provincial high street where the consumer footfall has departed for the nearest out-of-town mall and the yields could move into double digits. Planning guidelines that

GUS is well shot of its property portfolio but it is less clear why British Land is so keen. The the premium attached to scarcity.

Of course, British Land is aware of all this. The company hopes that a shortage of sites in big malls will cause retailers to move back to high streets and a planning bias to town centres will, hopefully, attract investment in infrastructure. A good portion - possibly 20 per cent of the properties will be sold.

British Land is currently weak in non-food retail but the frothy mall market has deterred the company from buying out-of-town centres. That is wise but the high street is a gamble in a retail market that is still patchy. British Land made a success of food retailing while doubters spurned such investments. The company could well repeat the trick but it will have its work cut out.

to 175 per cent. Although it

Partco

WHEN Parter floated in 1994, it set out to double in size within two or three years, an umbition that in hindsight looks modest. Yesterday's acquisition of Brown Brothers, the car components group, means the company has more than

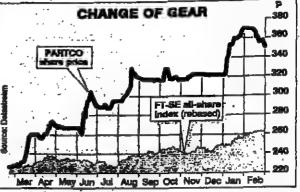
trebled in size since it came to the market. Strategically,

move can scarcely be faulted. Brown's activities fit well with Parico's existing range of car parts and garage equipment. There is inevitably some overlap between the two branch networks but Partoo is confident this is not a problem. Partco will have a 13 per cent share of the still highly fragmented market in motor components distribution.

The doubts centre on timing. The Brown Brothers deal comes only eight

months after Partco's £56

CHANGE OF GEAR COTRAC



RTZ-CRA

THE big question is whether the eponymous Rio Tinto is in flood or a mere babbling brook. Having decided to revert to its original name, based on a Spanish river darkened wine-red with copper ore deposits, investors are merely reminded that RTZ is first and foremost a

copper producer.

The copper price has been improving — at 110 cents a pound it is well ahead of the 98 cents level used by RTZ at its end-of-year provisional pricing. Bearing that in mind, RIZ should have a good first half but the question is whether the price will hold, given the huge production expansion that is in the

of dire warnings about oversupply that pepper analysts' notes about the company. Forecasters predict a 5 to 6 per cent expansion in production this year, in large part sive influx of cash coming due to RIZ itself, which has from pay-per-view TV by sell- EDITED BY CARL MORTISHED

invested huge sums in expanding its own output in Chile and Indonesia.

RTZ reckons demand will remain buoyant but a good part of its performance this year will depend on its success in getting the new Bingham Canyon smelting facility up to capacity levels of 280,000 tonnes. It produced 54,000 tonnes last year and a six-week shutdown is due in April. If it can achieve capacity in the second half the company might gain an extra \$80-90 million. In a market heading for surphises RTZ cannot afford to run anything

Charlton

but a tight ship.

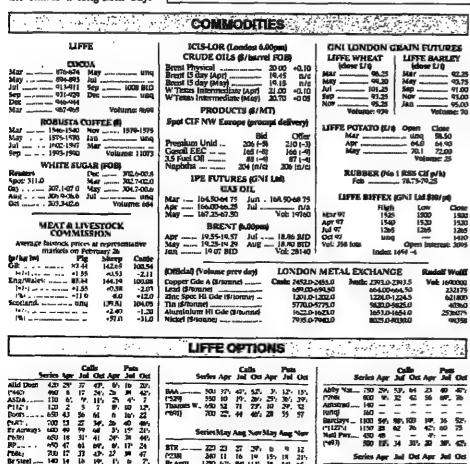
CHARLTON Athletic has a shing strategy. The first division football club is aware that it will never compete with the Manchester Uniteds and Liverpools at the top of the Premiership. So it does to win the Premiership. plans to cash in on the mas- Avoid the shares. sive influx of cash coming

ing its best footballers to the clubs that are receiving that

Richard Murray, the club's chairman, says it made an average of £1 million selling the products of its youth policy. This is just as well as the occasion of Charlton's last profit is a subject best left to archaeologists. Completing the rebuilding of the Valley, the club's home, should help, as would promotion to the Premiership, which is unlikely this year and a tough task Charlton needs to hold on

to its best players. That means forgoing transfer profits, which begs the question of how it can earn enough to justify the £17.4 million valuation it is seeking in its AIM flotation.

up. Charlton may be a nice little football team but it no more deserves to float than it



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BUSINESS

LETTERS

'Glass in drink'

ways won a decisive courtroom victory against me in



Three line up in Birch stakes

WFTH 12 months still to go before Abbey National an-Peter Birch's job, the bet-

ting is hotting up.

Among the strongest candidates is lan Harley. 46, finance director, and 25 years an Abbey man. Andrew Pople, 38, managing director of retail banking, is also fancied, but word has it that he may have to wait until next time round. Tim Ingram: 49, manag-ing director of the bank's European arm, is also proving a stayer. Meanwhile Chris Wermann isthe internal candidate tipped to succeed Jane Ageros as chief press officer when the latter moves to Merrill Lynch.

THERE are those among us who think Peps are an aid to indigestion. Seven per cent of people surveyed by Direct Line in conjunction with MORI mistook a Pep for an antacid tablet. Six per cent said it was a type of sports drink, 2 per cent said it was a tropical fish, and 18 per cent came clean, admitting that they didn't have a darn clue.

Goodbye Trevor

THE brain behind the Wonderbra advert has defected to a rival agency. Trevor "Hello Boys" Beattie has guit the TBWA Simons Palmer Agency after four years, yesterday switching to GGT. The advertising whit-kid, who also created The Professionals Nissan Almera commercial, quit over TBWA's reported £12 million merger with Simons. Born and raised in Balsall Heath, Birmingham. Beattle earned a reported E250,000 a year at TBWA. Jav Pond-Jones, GGT's creative director, says: "l see him as a sort of creative coach to my more manage-



Caprice Bourret: the new Wonderbra girl

Exotic taste

PAUL ROCHELEAU is to succeed Robin Paul as chief executive of Albright & Wilson, When Dr Paul retires at the end of July, Rocheleau and his family expect to be happily at home somewhere in England. Whether his address will be in Birmingham, where A&W has its HQ, or London, has yet to be decided, however. The peripatetic Rocheleau, currently president of A&W Americas, lived in five houses in three countries during his first six years with the international chemicals group. In Birmingham on business for the next few days. Rocheleau is already de veloping a taste for balti curries. "I'll say it is enjoy-able, but only, in limited quantities," he tells me.

Ken gets blues

KEN CLARKE will see his brown Hush Puppies turn blue today. On a visit to Xerox Business Services, the Chancellor will be presented with a photograph of minself, digitally remas-tered using Xerox colour technology, dressed in blue suede shoes. He will be at Rank Xerox's head office in for the signing of a contract between Xerox Business Services and Bridge Direct, a Nottingham business in Mr Clarke's Rushcliffe constituency.

MORAG PRESTON





ANATOLE KALETSKY

What Brown could really do

REFORMS IN BRITAIN'S TAX STRUCTURE

TAXES AS A PERCENTAGE OF TOTAL TAXATION (1990-94 AVERAGE)

Labour silence on key points conceals

likely aims of monetary

policy

ow that Gordon Brown has completed his long se-ries of speeches official economic policies of a future Labour government, it seems a good time to ask what Labour will really do if it wins the election. In particular it is worth reconsidering what a Labour government could mean for interest rates, sterling, taxes and the state of public finances — since the answers to all these questions seem rather different today from the ones I would have given a few months ago.

A good place to start is Wednesday's concluding leo-ture in the series, covering Labour's relations with the Bank of England, along with Mr Brown's interview in yesterday's Times. The most interesting points on monetary policy are ones that Mr Brown did not make. In proposing to "depersonalise" the monthly Ken and Eddie meetings by appointing a new policymak-ing council for the Bank, Mr Brown could achieve three unstated objectives.

First, he would avoid future disputes over interest rates with Eddie George, the Bank's Governor, by promising in advance to do whatever Mr George says. This was unnec-essary for Kenneth Clarke, the present Chancellor, because he was able to prove that his than the Bank's. But for Mr Brown, who is an unknown quantity and represents a party which businessmen and investors instinctively regard with suspicion, defying the Bank would obviously be a dangerous course. What is less obvious is that Mr. Brown's proposed reforms should minimise the political risks to Labour of blindly following the Bank's advice. For the second unstated

objective of his proposals is to put pressure on the Bank and the Governor to behave themselves in a way that is both economically responsible and politically acceptable to a Labour government. By "responsi-ble" I mean the opposite of the sense that central bankers attach to this word. For central bankets (at least in Europel the only measure of monetary

COULD HAVE A BIG EFFECT ON STERLING STERLING AND ELECTIONS 89 90 91 92

"responsibility" is a low rate of inflation. But for anyone else finduding central bankers in America and Japan) a responsible monetary policy means something quite different. It is a policy designed not only to achieve reasonably stable prices, but also to minimise employment, control cyclical fluctuations and allow the highest sustainable rate of economic growth. This is an infinitely more demanding objective than the simple official goal of keeping inflation at or around the 25 per cent target, but this broad range of objectives is exactly what the Tories, under Mr Clarke's economic leadership, have been successfully achieving, and it is what the Bank will be forced to

Saxon definitions of monetary responsibility rather than following the example of the Bundesbunk? The answer lies in a cunning political device implicit in Mr Brown's monetary proposals. The Bank as an institution and Mr George as an individual desperately crave "operational". independence". And Mr

George's own position as Gov-

How will Mr Brown ensure that the Bank sticks to Angloernor comes up for review just a year after the general election. Under these circumstances, the Bank's incentive to co-operate with the new Chancellor is clear. I am not suggesting anything cynical or improper. Any reasonable banker normally wants to co-operate with his finance minister and government, especially one that has just received a clear democratic mandate - and outside the

6 Mr George's position comes up for review a year after the election ?

future European monetary economy as a whole. It also union almost all central banks has important implications for are mandated by their statutes to "support the general economic policies of the government". Nevertheless, it must be reassuring for Mr Brown to have in place some institutional deterrents against the overrealous and narrow-minded monetary policies sometimes demanded by Mr George and

the Bank Having such deterrents in place is particularly important because of the third - and most important - hidden item all other aspects of economic

that I suspect may be on Mr

Brown's monetary agenda.

This is his newfound anxiety

about an overly strong pound.

Mr Brown, along with Mr

Clarke and much of the British

business community, seems to

than I expected to the danger

of allowing sterling to become overvalued. If true, this is

extremely good news for Brit-

porters - and indeed for the

On the monetary front, the Bank of England will have to co-operate with the Government's desire to maintain a reasonably competitive exchange rate by going easy on interest rates. Interest rates may not rise by even as much as the 0.75 percentage points that the markets now expect by December - if so, the pound would probably rise only slightly

levels against the mark and fall against the dollar. To exercise such self-restraint, however, the Bank will quite rightly demand a quid pro quo from the Chancellor - some help in controlling inflation by non-monetary means. Specifically, Labour will have to go even further than the present Government to restrain demand by reducing public borrowing. That will mean raising taxes, not necessarily by very much in the short-run,

but quite substantially over the next few years. In my view an increase in taxes of, say, £6 billion or £7 billion, equivalent to I per cent of GDP, would be a price well worth paying for a better-balanced economy, a more competitive pound and a long-run reduction in the den of national debt. Mr Brown will never, of course, admit that he intends to do this, just as the Tories

per cent). Ultimately, the extra revenues would come from the people who contribute to pension schemes - but they will never admit that they would continue to enjoy a tax have been pursuing exactly such a policy, with considerexemption that is currently worth Ell billion a year. Altoable success, since Britain left the exchange-rate mechanism. gether, a good example of the The important point, however. many attractive options availis that a strong, silent consenable to a Chancellor who can sus is emerging across the stand up to lobbying and wants to use his room for the Treasury and the various manoeuvre.

case not over From Mr J. A. Gorman your report that British Air-

tight fiscal policy with relative-

my "Glass in the drink" action (February 13). This action is far from decided. ly loose monetary policy and a stable to weaker exchange rate is exactly what Britain now His Honour Judge Nicho-las Medawar, QC, struck requires.
The question which remains unanswered after all Mr Brown's speeches and lectures out the action last November. Despite my counsel presenting copious medi-cal evidence, signed by is how such a policy mix could four doctors, the same be created by a Labour gov-ernment which has promised not to touch either VAT or judge effectively refused even to allow me to be heard under oath. Judge Medawar's display of ridiincome tax. There seems to be only one plausible answer: by cule and judicial hostility ending exemptions and clostowards my counsel was astounding. My solicitors were immediately instructing loopholes, reforming the tax structure and expanding ed to lodge notice of appeal. the tax base rather simply by alleging judicial bias lead-ing to this perverse raising the rates of existing taxes. In all these respects Mr Brown would be taking a path well trodden since the ERM judgment. Finally, to clarify so-called "doubts over medical evi-

debacle by Norman Lamont and Mr Clarke. dence", all of the various The most obvious reform medical reports of the serimentioned repeatedly in these ous injuries sustained after columns, would be to end the dividend subsidy for pension the "Glass in the drink" incident is available for funds, Peps and other taxinspection, and confirm exempt institutions. This subwithout doubt that such sidy perversely encourages British companies to pay out injury did occur as alleged. Yours faithfully, JOHN GORMAN, their profits as dividends, Parque Residencia, Club Atlantis, rather than reinvesting them in expanding their operations, and accounts, at least in part, Bungalow 210, for some of the peculiarities of San Eugenio, 38660, the British financial system -Playa de las Américas. the exceptionally high share of corporate profits distributed Canary Isles. as dividends, the high yields on British shares by international standards, the concentration of share ownership in the hands of institutions and the anachronistic dividenddiscount models used to evalu-

ate pension funds. More

importantly from the Chancel-

lor's standpoint, this subsidy

costs the Exchequer £4 billion

Removing the dividend sub-

sidy would have no effect on

corporations, whose tax bills

would be exactly the same as

before. The extra money

would come from an increase not in corporation tax, but from an extension of the

income-tax base — and a fairly

progressive one which would

affect the rich far more than

the poor. The impact on invest-

ment would probably be posi-

tive since it would level the

taxes now paid on profits retained for reinvestment (cur-

rently taxed at 33 per cent) and

the money paid out to institu-

dends (now taxed at only 13

tional shareholders as divi

to £5 billion a year.

Rail chaos should be a warning sign

From Mrs Brenda Benson Sir, With the chaos at South West Trains, one of the first private rail companies, we are seeing just what a failure rail privatisation is

for the travelling public. Thousands of commuters are being left waiting on station platforms because the company chose to put its shareholders first and let 10 per cent of its train drivers go before the alternative arrangements for keeping the trains running were in place. And all this just weeks before the general election at a time when transport ministers are desperately trying to talk up rail privatisation. It makes you fear for the future of the railways if the

Tories win again. This Government de stroyed the coal industry iust months after the last election. How long would it take another Tory government and the new private rail companies to decide that the sums.don't add up after all - and do the same to Britain's railways? Yours faithfully. BRENDA BENSON. 14 Percival Road, Feitham, Middlesex.

Tesco chief with populist touch puts customers first

Leahy, 41 today, with a nice birthday present week earlier than expected that he was taking over as chief executive. He will always be able to say that he made it to chief executive at 40, which

does have a certain ring to it.
To his credit, such vain thoughts appear far from his mind. Leahy has worked at Tesco for 17 years, latterly as deputy managing director, and has known for 18 months that he would take over from David Malpas, his boss, when he retired. He has had plenty of time to prepare and is nothing if not focused on the tasks ahead.

He agrees that Malpas and Lord McLaurin of Knebworth, the chairman who is to leave in June, are a tough act to dannted: "In the final analysis, Tesco won't be compared with the past. It will be compared with the present, in terms of how we cope with the market and environment."

The environment is currently a pleasant one. Tesco has become the City's favourite food retailer and has overtaken J Sainsbury to become number one in market capitalsation and market share. Soon - unless all the forecasters are wrong - it will be number one in profits.

Leahy, as you would ex-pect, says that overtaking Sainsbury's is not the point. No disrespect to Sainsbury's they're a fine company with a strong record - but we just worry about customers. The only number one that matters is to be the shop that ooks after customers better

Terry Leahy talks about his new role to Sarah Cunningham



The success of Clubcard is largely down to Terry Leahy

than anyone else," he says. The transformation of Tesco from a "pile 'em high, sell 'em cheap" outlit into the current slick, service-oriented operation began long before Leahy's time. But the change accelerated when Tesco began its move into financial services two years ago with the launch of Clubcard, Britain's first permarket loyalty card. Leahy is credited with much

of the success of Clubcard and among his first tasks as chief executive he will have to steer Tesos through the launch of the bank that it is setting up with Royal Bank of Scotland. The bank's first credit card will come out in the summer. Mortgages, investment, insurance and savings products are expected to follow.

The appouncement of

banking venture this month was marred by a reported row with NatWest, which had been running Tesco's souped-up Clubcard Plus. In spite of the grumblings from the NatWest camp, Leahy is adamant that Tesco will not have to pay any penalty or compensation for ending their agreement

eahy insists that the new bank will be entirely driven by customer demands. "If we are going to be successful in this area it won't be because the banks are very had, it is only because we are going to be very good. If we can develop products and services which genuinely are convenient to use and are simple to understand and do offer outstanding value then we

Leahy, who was born in Liverpool and still has a Scouse accent and a passion for Everton Football Club, is a convinced populist. In spite of his job and high income, he sees himself and his family as typical in many ways. His wife, Alison, is a GP and they live with their 8-year-old twins and 5-year-old son in Ponder's End, near the Tesco headquarters in Cheshunt. As he says: My wife works - that is very typical nowadays - we have children, we live in the suburbs, we're short of time that's absolutely typical."

He says that he is conscious and happy to justify what they do. But, he adds: "I do sometimes feel that criticism comes from quarters not close to the lives of ordinary people."

His suspicions focus on the architects who criticise supermarket designs, and particu-larly the typical brick and tile branches of Tesco found in Essex, adorned with Neoclassical columns and arches. Those buildings work well in the British climate. That style, ordinary people like. It doesn't win competitions, but it is popular with the people who use them," he says.

People who have worked with Leahy say he is smart and hard working. He also demands, and generally re-ceives, great loyalty. This is an asset — up to a point. As for his faults, one former colleague. who is otherwise an admirer reckoned that he can be stubborn and "would be perfectly capable of leading the Charge of the Light Brigade". But at this stage, he added, heroic failure seems very unlikely.

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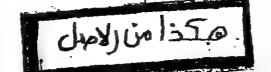
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Lex prevails in a tough market to lift profits

ain's largest motor dealer. continued their recovery yesterday after the company said that it had overcome tough market conditions to achieve a 22 per cent increase in underlying pre-tax profits last year. The shares rose 13p. to 344 2p. after it said that its vehicle leasing and Hyundai importing divisions were offsetting slow growth from its new-car dealerships.

Sir Trevor Chinn, chairman, said that the largest vehicle manufacturers were losing their grip of the new car market as customers looked for more variety. "What is happening is that Ford and

Changes in boardroom for Boots

BOOTS, the retailer, announced boardroom changes yesterday (Sarah Cunningham writes). Sir Michael Angus, chairman. has agreed to stay on for one more year to July 1998. He will then become deputy chairman and Lord Blyth deputy chairman and chief executive, will become executive chairman. Additionally, two executive directors are to become joint group man-aging directors with immediate effect. They are Steve Russell, managing director of Boots the Chemists and David Thompson, finance director. Mr Russell will add international retail development to his portfolio, while Mr Thompson will add Do it All and Boots Healthcare International to his. Brian Whalan, managing director of Halfords. Is to retire in

July for personal reasons.

SHARES of Lex Service, Brit- Vauxhall and Rover are losing market share," he said. "The market is more fluid because people want to be more individual, and companies are giving their employees a lot more choice [of company car]. The problem for Ford is that the Mondeo is a bog-standard

> Lex's Hyundai Importing operation broke into profit last year, making £5.4 million against a loss of £900.000 last time. The number of Hyundais registered rose by 36 per cent over the year, to

Overall, pre-tax profits rose to E51.4 million before exceptionals from E42.2 million, on sales that were static at £1.50 billion. After a slightly lower tax rate of 27 per cent (28 per cent), earnings strengthened to 31.5p a share (20.4p).
A final dividend of 9.6p per share brings the total for the year to 16p (15p).
Lex's lift trucks division

continued to be afflicted by the downturn in the sector. Its profits declined slightly to £12.5 million (£12.8 million). The company attributed this to the increased durability of trucks, and said that it plans to mount a recovery by strength-ening its sales efforts.

The company also said that its dealerships, which lifted profits by 8.3 per cent to £14.3 million over the year, were still delivering inadequate re-turns. The higher profits were drawn from 62 dealerships, against the 86 that were operating at the start of the year. It has also reduced the capital employed in its retail operations, from £155 million to £119 million.

Lex said that it is still in the early stages of reorganising the remaining dealerships, and is in talks with Ford and Rover about how to continue. Its smaller and less profitable dealerships will be sold off while a few of the larger dealerships — more favoured by the car manufacturers will change marque.



Sir Trevor Chinn, chairman of Lex, which prospered despite fluid market conditions

Scholl in move to unify its brand

By ERIC REGULY

SCHOLL, the footwear company, yesterday confirmed that it has taken the first step in gaining control of the brand outside of Europe with the purchase of Scholl Latin America for an initial payment of \$12.5 million.

The acquisition, reported in The Times earlier this month, is expected to be followed by negotiations to purchase Scholl's operations in North America from Schering-Plough, the American phar-

maceuticals group.

The three Scholl companies in the Americas and in Europe. have been separate entities since 1988, when Schering-Plough hived off its international operations.
Stuart Wallis, chairman of

Scholl said: "The acquisition of Scholl Latin America is seen as an important step in exercising greater control of the Scholl brand worldwide and provides access to markets in Mexico and Latin America with substantial growth potential "

Scholl Latin America, which was owned by private inves-tors, had net assets last year of \$3 million and operating profits of \$1.35 million. Scholl has agreed to pay an additional \$5.25 million in each of the next two years, raising the potential price to \$23 million, depending on the achievement of sales and profit targets.

Scholl would not comment on, its talks with Schering. Ultimately, Scholl would like to own Scholl North America outright or set up a Schering-School joint venture that would own the operations in the two

Vaux sells nursing homes subsidiary

VAUX GROUP, the brewing and hotels group, is selling St Andrews Homes, its nursing homes subsidiary, for a maximum consideration of £43.2 million. The buyer is Highfield Group, a care home group based in Edinburgh. St Andrews operates 38 care homes in the Midlands, North of England and Scotland. The net book value of the assets being sold was £40.4 million at the end of Sentember 30. In the last financial was the business. of September 30. In the last financial year the business

earned pre-tax profits of £3.7 million.

The consideration comprises £35 million in cash payable on completion, £5.2 million of loan notes and a payout of up to £3 million payable three years after completion of the sale. Sir Paul Nicholson, chairman of Vaux, said: This is an excellent result for our shareholders. We have achieved full value for St Andrews, which will release resources for investment in our core businesses of brewing and pubs and hotels."

Amec takes slice of Spie

SHARES in Amec rose by 11p, to 1212p, yesterday after the UK construction and civil engineering company said that it had completed the acquisition of Spie Batignolles, in partnership with the French contractor's employees, from Schneider for Fr350 million. Amec will hold a 41.6 per cent interest in the business. Following the transaction, a further Fr112.5 million is being invested in Spie through capital increases. The offer to Spie employees resulted in about 12,000 of them contributing Fr270 million for a 58.4 per cent holding.

Hoya boost for Wales

HOYA, the Japanese speciacle lens manufacturer, announced a £10 million expansion at its Wrexham plant in north Wales. The company is building a factory that will double the workforce from 100 to 200. Construction is under way, as is recruitment of the 100 new staff. The factory will enable the company to expand its output of scratch-resistant plastic lenses, which are supplied to opticians across the UK. Hoya has operated in north Wales since 1980 and has seen its turnover increase from £9 million to £12 million last year. Further growth is expected this year.

Knitwear pay pact

MINIMUM pay rates for thousands of hoslery and knitwear workers will increase by lip an hour to £3.20 under a deal agreed yesterday. Wages will rise by 2.5 per cent from April and workers will receive two days paid paternity leave for the first time. The 25,000 workers in England and Wales covered by the agreement will also receive an 'extra day's paid compassionate leave. The deal between the Knitting Industries Federation and the National Union of Knitwear, Footwear and Apparel Trades, will affect mainly women:

Quarto earnings ahead

QUARTO GROUP, the book publisher, achieved an 11 per cent increase in pre-tax profits to 67.81 million in 1996, with acquisitions helping to offset the adverse impact of a strong pound towards the end of the year. Earnings rose 7 per cent to 26.5p a share. A final dividend of 5.8p a share lifts the total 10 per cent, to 8p. The shares rose 11p to 238 p yesterday. Laurence Orbach, chairman and chief executive, said major markets continue to be strong, with some evidence the British market is beginning to improve after a lengthy recession.

Slide for Samsung

A SLUMP in computer chip prices sent net profits of South Korea's Samsung Electronics, a significant investor in the UK, down 93 per cent to 164.16 billion won (£117 million) in 1996, but analysts expect a recovery this year by the world's largest memory chip maker. The company said that a freefall in prices of 16-megabit dynamic random access memory (dram) chips hampered profits. Dram sales are about 35 per cent of sales. Prices of 16-megabit dram chips fell about 80 per cent in 1996 because of global oversupply.

Renishaw lifts payout

SHARES of Renishaw rose 21p to 359p yesterday after the specialist engineering company reported a rise in pre-tax profits to £10.8 million from £8.2 million in the six months to December 31. Earnings were 10.84p a share, compared with 8.89p, and the interim dividend is lifted to 2.89p a share from 2.41p. The company, which generates almost 90 per cent of sales overseas, said the record profits were achieved in spite of the recent strength of sterling. Sales rose 11 per cent to £39.7 million.

FII passes interim

FII GROUP, the manufacturer and supplier of footwear to Marks & Spencer, is passing the interim dividend despite reducing losses to £327,000 before tax from £3.6 million in the half-year to the end of November. Losses were 1.9p a share, down from 15.6p previously. Last year the company paid an interim dividend of 6p but did not pay a final dividend. Shares of FII were unchanged at 100p yesterday. In September the company raised £7.3 million from a rights issue of new shares at 105p each.

Green Property up

GREEN PROPERTY, the property development company based in the Irish Republic, reported a 34 per cent increase in annual pre-tax profits to Ir£8.5 million in 1996. Green's Irish portfolio benefited from the general rise in property prices in the Republic. In the UK a string of acquisitions made during 1996, valued at more than Ir£120 million, performed well. Earnings rose almost 14 per cent to Ir13.73p a share. Net assets rose to Ir274p a share from Ir194p. A final dividend of

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Compensation to chief slows BSM

BSM, the driving school group, has pushed its full-year profits below last year's level with a payment of £350,000 to Paul Massey, its chief executive, for loss of

Richard Glover, the managing director, is taking over immediately as chief execucompany revealed yesterday.

No new managing director has been appointed. The com-pany said Mr Massey, who has been with BSM for 12 years, was leaving "to pursue other interests". He will be a consultant to the group.

The compensation payment means that pre-tax profits declined 2 per cent. The figure tive from Mr Massey, the for the 12 months to December 27 was £5,27 million

compared with £5.38 million. Mr Glover said trading in the first few weeks of this year had been poor, largely because of bad weather. This time last year business was booming before the introduction of the written theory test. As one way of tackling the flat market BSM is planning

Signet does

new deal

with banks

By Sarah Cunningham

SIGNET, the former Ratners jewellery retailing

company, took a step to-wards resolving its complex

financial problems yester-day with the announcement

of new long-term financing

The group has set up a three-year \$360 million cred-

it facility with a new syndi-

cate of banks. The new syndicate is led by BZW, Midland Bank, Banque Paribas and the Royal Bank

This means that the banks

which were involved in the group's existing \$450 million

two-year facility agreement, which was due to expire at

the end of June, will be repaid in full.

talks aimed at a reconstruc-

tion of its share capital

structure were continuing. It

will have to persuade hold-

ers of preference shares to

agree to convert all their shares into new ordinary

shares. A company spokes-

man said that it was impos-

The company said that

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of Scotland.

year. It is investing £500,000 in converting French technology and buying ten simula-tors for a trial in September. If successful, the simulators will be installed around the country. Mr Glover said any resulting increase in revenue will not be seen until 1998.

The final dividend is 5.060 (4.6p), payable on May 12. It makes 7.59 (6.9p) for the year. to introduce computerised driving simulators later this

Fisher hit

by cockle

devastation

By Sarah Cunningham

ALBERT FISHER, the food processing and distribution group, said that its most

recent harvest of cockles had

been severely restricted by the devastation of the cockle

The cockle beds were

damaged after the water

froze off the north coast of

Holland early last year. It

will not be clear until April.

Cockles usually account for around 10 per cent of Albert Fisher's annual profits.
In a trading statement for

the half year to February 28

released yesterday, the com-pany said that the poor cockle harvest had been partially offset by a much

improved fresh mussel market. It said the remainder of

the seafood division has

The European food pro-cessing division is perform-ing in line with budget. In the

European fresh produce divi-

sion, which earns the greater part of its profits in the second half of the financial

made good progress.

beds in 1996.

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year, the vegetable markets remain difficult, however. sible to say how long the talks would go on. He said: "Obviously the board would It said some markets have shown improvement since like to get it sorted out as the new year. The shares Ir3.3p lifts the total almost 9 per cent to Ir4.6p. quickly as possible." were unchanged at 432 p. LEGAL & PUBLIC NOTICES 0171-782 7344 LEGAL NOTICES were appointed join of the above named 19 February 1977. Signed P J R Sound P J Dickerson LEGAL, PUBLIC, COMPANY

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THEATRE 1

In Stratford the rarely seen Cymbeline is given a smart overhaul by the RSC . . .



THEATRE 2

. while in London, Faust is radically but impenetrably revised for our frazzled times





RADIO

The novels of Armistead Maupin are the starting point for a new travel series about America



TOMORROW

Does Tennessee Williams's *Camino* Real justify revival? Read Benedict Nightingale's view

THEATRE: Excellent RSC acting in a fine production at Stratford; plus some philosophical confusion, and an Irish one-hander

Doom, gloom and humanity

ACTORS Touring Company is into doomsday scenarios. Philippou rediscovered an Odon von Horváth play from 1926 that comically savaged a Europe in disarray after the First World War. Now Mark Ravenhill provides a text where a character argues that humanity itself is at an end. I wish I had been able to follow

> Faust Lyric Studio, Hammersmith

This is not the Faust of Marlowe or Goethe or Thomas Mann: It is closer to Klaus Mann's Mephisto, where the tempter and the tempted coexist in one person, but in the Ravenhill version these roles switch between his two char-acters. One is a Foucault-like philosopher embarking on a sexual spree in California, the other a callow youth at war with his father. We do not learn the names of the protagonists but are told that the father is a computer billionaire named Bill — not a name one would lightly choose.

Since Ravenhill is the author of Shopping and Firing, the likelihood was high that alarming events would occur. Publicity photos suggested that blood would flow, and so it does, though the injury to the professor's eyes causes no

lasting inconvenience. So what happens? On Pippa Nissen's spare and mobile set, philosopher and youth do a deal. The philosopher wants to live a little", the youth to escape from Dad.

The lean and hungry look of the French-Canadian actor Alain Pelletier gives a good tigue comes across in his gesture of tilting his head sideways and supporting its weight on a hand. Zoomorphic shapes are projected onto video screens, and a man's naked body too, bleeding from self-inflicted slashes.

These wounds come in because the youth — a high-twitch performance by Pete Bailie — has trouble with reality unless it comes by way of video or the Internet. Some guy they meet slices his jugular as a way to approach real reality. Hereabouts the philosopher becomes Mephisto and the youth goes back to his

None of these events satisfactorily allows an exploration of what I take to be the play's prime 'question: humanity whither? The stated answer is that we must be cruel, but this smacks of trimming the argument to fit a desired sexual solution. On three occasions when the play could oblige us to face something horrible. Philippou never quite shows it I was grateful for that.

JEREMY KINGSTON



A tall tale, beautifully told

Shakespeare Com-pany in the air, and not just because the troupe will soon clamber into buses and take a worryingly long sum-mer break from the Barbican. Some say its modern work is disappointing — yet Peter Whelan's fascinating contribution to the Shakespeare archives, The Herbal Bed, is about to move to the West End, I myself have felt that its

> Cymbeline RST, Stratford

classic productions are not what they were - yet here is Adrian Noble's superb revival of Cymbeline, with Joanne Pearce, Paul Freeman and Guy Henry firmly answering the suspicion that RSC acting is getting weaker. Noble has made heavyish

cuts to the text, but they left me unbothered. Indeed, I was relieved to find the laborious opening conversation between First Gent and Second Gent reduced to a deft exegesis narrated by an orange-clad soothsayer to a white-clothed cast clustered over a flame. That instantly establishes the right feel. Cymbeline is a wonderfully tall tale, absorbing in itself but packed with ingredients from Shakespeare's other late romances: a pure young heroine, evil in high places, desperate separations, glorious reconciliations, a visit from Mount Olympus, forgiveness, joy

An oriental simplicity rules. Anthony Ward's set is a blue box with silky white flooring that rises to hang like a sail above the stage. Two Little Maids From School teeter about in black slippers. The more elevated members of the royal household are Confucian figures in skullcaps and long black jackets. Even the



Romans' red robes owe less to Caesar than to the Mikado. The battle between them and the British comes with staves. huge banners and Edward Petherbridge's Cymbeline aloft on a brass-and-cloth throne. People trip in and out via a walkway running through the stalls.

Why so radical a journey from Britain circa AD 10? Is Noble excusing what's exotic in the story of Cymbeline's daughter imogen, whose adventures include being be-

trayed by her wicked stepmother, menaced by her husband after the Roman lachimo pretends he has slept with her. disguising herself as a boy and meeting her long-lost brothers in the Welsh wilds, and, after being wrongly deemed dead, waking up to find herself beside a cornse she thinks is her husband but is actually Cloten? All I can report is delight in an evening that combines clarity with a sense

Petherbridge solves one of the play's problems by bringing an interestingly pained, flummoxed quality to the undeveloped, unattractive titlecharacter. There is certainly no doubting who wears the pantaloons in his court, given power that Joanna McCallum's towering Queen

majestically exudes. Pearce's Imogen should probably react more strongly to such setbacks as finding that a) her husband wants to kill her, and b) she is snuggling up to what looks like his headless trunk; but she has the essential qualities in abundance. I have never seen her bring more freshness, sweetness and warmth to a part.

The male villains are equally effective. Freeman cannot motivate lachimo's final repentance - who could? -- but everything about him in the early scenes, from his smile to the silvery glint in his eye, radiates arrogance and sly. stealthy destructiveness. And Henry does much

humanise a character usually played as a boorish oaf. His Cloten fastidiously lengthens his name's tell-tale first syliable, and, instead of roaring and blustering, gives the im-pression of a natural Aguecheek trying to convince himself he is a mix of Romeo and Hotspur or a long, thin prawn indulging in sharkfantasies. Funny stuff, fine

> BENEDICT NIGHTINGALE

Plot makes a shallow grave

THE hottest action is all over before the start of Colin O'Connor's monologue, All Those Trammelling Dreams. Only after the sounds of a scuffle have died down does the play's sole character appear, blood dribbling from

Crash landing somewhere

MADONNA ANTONIO BANDERAS JONATHAN PRYCE

between Edgar Alien Poe and All Those Christopher Isherwood, **Trammelling** O'Connor's play doubles as the breathless, febrile testimo-Dreams ny of a champagne Charlie. An unpleasant figure, all too easy to distrust, he has been cornered by a mob after a sordid encounter and now

The Crypt, Dublin gines to be filled with impabystanders, witnesses addresses an audience he imaticnt vigilantes baying explanation of and some

night's events.
The effete, dinner-suited sucker, played by Michael McElhatton in a daze of fragility and bluster, begins to offer an account of himself, of his habit of frequenting nightmuch wine and of tipping too extravagantly, and of his tuncomfortable connections with a mysterious (and significantly absent) couple. Gradually, a

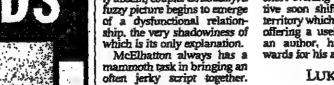
clubs alone, of drinking too

O'Connor's play demands that his actor respond to a pressing crowd of gawkers, something which calls for carefully timing and a clipping pace. On opening night, McElhatton certainly kept the speed high, but his occasionally breathlessly high-adrenalin performance came at the expense of some accuracy.

Even though he has written a play which relies on a hidden secret, O'Connor does not seem to have all the skills required to maintain a convincing subterfuge. His twists are always visible and too often sound hollowly literary.

The central notion of performance as a hybrid of legal testimony and storytelling is not strong or fresh enough to support the weight of even this short evening and the narrative soon shifts into fantasy territory which, while perhaps offering a useful exercise for an author, has limited rewards for his audience.

LUKE CLANCY



ravel programmes on radio can never hope to compete with their television equivalents any more than travel brochures would have much of a readership if they lacked pictures. The main example on BBC Radio is Breakaway (Radio 4), which is said to be one of the targets in the rifle sights of James Boyle, Radio 4's Controller.

I cannot understand why Breakaway persists in trying to visit places. It would be far better to let Jill Dando do the wandering in the sun routine on TV and turn Breakaway into a show for travel consumers, leading us through the maze of special offers that aren't. Breakaway does some of

that, but not enough. But there is another thing that makes the present Breakaway unsatisfactory, and that is radio's excellence at doing travel shows that are not ostensibly travel shows at all.

A fine example began on Radio 4 this week. Novel America (Tuesday at 10am, FM only) is a four-parter

RADIO

Half bored

which visits different parts of America through the medium of novels set in those areas. The idea is not new, but I doubt that it has ever been better executed than in this series.

The presenter is Martin Wainwright, and in the first programme he saw San Francisco through his own eyes and those of the writer Armistead Maupin, creator of the Tales of the City stories, which are set in San

There were no recom-mended hotels or ideal vantage points from which to admire the Golden Gate Bridge. Instead there were real people living in real streets doing real jobs offering real experiences of real life. Mainstream travel programmes leave the feeling that the show has been to a place to save us the trouble: this one must have had people reaching for the nearest travel agent.

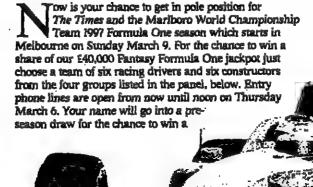
PETER BARNARD

Play Fantasy Formula One



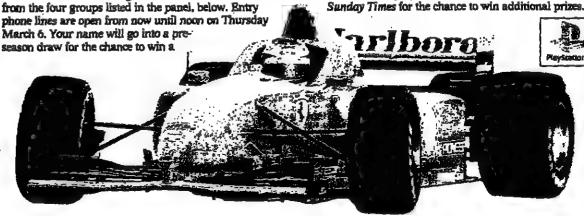
Prizes worth £40,000 Marlborn





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team name, your own name, address, postcode and daytime telephone number. You will receive a 10-digit PIN number as confirmation of your entry. Please keep a record of this with your team details.

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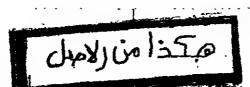
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■ CHOICE I

The Leap into Dance festival features new work by Richard Alston VENUE: Tomorrow.

The Green, Richmond



CHOICE 2

Maxim Vengerov displays his virtuoso violin technique

VENUE: Recital tonight at the Barbican

8pm. Then Carabridge, Arts (01223 503333), March 6-8; Oxford, Phythouse (01865 799600), March 11-15; March 18-22, Edinburgh, Traverse, March 18-22, Edinburgh, Traverse,

MOTTINGHAM: GOVERN, DANIETH

Britten is akmospheric evocation of the Section age, to staged by Open North in a production directed by

Proficial Linyal Josephine Berston
sings the role of Queen Elizabeth I, with
Chie Bayley as Sa Watter Releigh and
Thomas Randle are the Earl of Essas.
The conductor of James Holmes.
Theatre Royal, Theatre Square (01:5948 2626). Tomorrow, 7.15pm; met the
Illandianshire Peters on office of \$500.

Berblant Lucie Rie and Here Coper Potters in Parallel (0171-539 4141) ... Control Salet Merical Codes of At and Design: Direction '97 — The College Erhabitor (0171-514 7000) . a.2.4 Colours on of Line David Wyster

LONDON GALLERIES

mr. Palacs (0161-042 3500)



tious-looking programme, and the glossy cardboard creation

supplied for the premiere of Passages

stood an unwieldy 2ft high. Alas, it was nearly the most striking thing about

this event in which something should

really have "happened", given that no

fewer than six composers and four

Commissioned and produced by the

Women's Playhouse Trust, Passages is

described as a song cycle, but it sounds

more like cabaret and was presented as

theatre. It was an uncomfortable

reminder that the history of musical

theatre is littered with the corpses of

well-intentioned works. No one can

doubt the sincerity of all those in-

volved; many people recognise the horrors of war, racism, dispossession

and displacement with which Passages

deals. But those who conceived it forgot

that drama can seldom stand next to

the daily reality as projected on television. And, with its all-female

creators and performers drawn delib-

erately from different cultural back-

grounds, there was a stifling excess of

Several of the 20 numbers were

smart, some were well performed, but

Jules Wright's blank staging obscured

many of these virtues. The singers

occupied a giant mattress on which at

one point they planted flowers; but

AUDIENCES can be strangely reveal-

ing creatures. The minute Evgeny

Kissin's latest piano recital was over,

the Festival Hall marketplace was

CDs listened to and acquired, tills

were stuttering out countless receipts.

Was this the behaviour of an audience

deeply moved, satisfyingly nourished

by the music they had just heard? Or

was it the reaction to an evening of highly charged and often thrilling

At 26, Kissin is becoming reliable.

He will match extraordinary feats of

turned reflective miniatures, and he

will balance a pearly, translucent

right-hand song with a left hand of resonant, sculpted clarity and then

meld one into another in a fluid play

Chopin's Ballade No 4 was an

inspired meditation on the metamor-

phosis of song through variation and

rondo. But the first three Ballades

lacked an individuating sound world: a limited repertoire of performance

different musical characters.

gesture was applied to three quite

At this stage in his career, Kissin

offers a model of beauty rather than a

of shifting timbres.

strength and stamina with exquisit

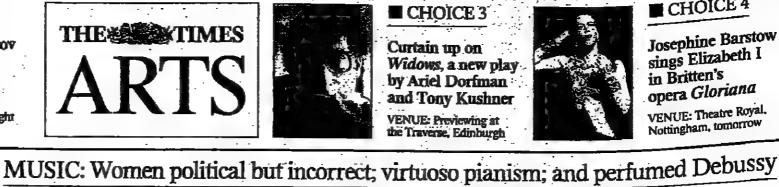
vibrant books were being brows

Beauty without soul

PC about the project.

poets were involved.

Self-destruct



■ CHOICE 3

Curtain up on Widows, a new play by Ariel Dorfman and Tony Kushner VENUE: Previewing at the Traverse, Edinburgh



■ CHOICE 4

Josephine Barstow sings Elizabeth I in Britten's opera Gloriana VENUE: Theatre Royal, Nottingham, tomorrow

LONDON

AUGUST SANDER: An INTEREST OF approximately 200 photographs depicting rural and urban society in Germany both before and after the First World War opens today in the Wolfson Gellery, and runs until June 8.

School Parkell Gellery, St Marun's
Place, WC2 (0171-306 0055) Mon-Sel,

LEAP INTO DANCE. Richmond's sixth immust chrock technal heatures the London premiere of Rumours, Visions by the Richard Aliston Denner Coeppany. A powerful triple-bit by this finely honed ensurable includes Beyond Measure and Lachymae Richmond, The Green (0181-840 0088) Tomorrow, 7 45pm. (2)

MAXIM VENGEROV The viruses MAXIM VENGEROV The window wolfins returns to the Barbican after a wine-year absonce. This evening's restal begins with Mozari's Sonata in B flat. Schedm's Echro Sonata and Eigar's Violin Sonata. A selection of music by Tohaikovsky completes the programma With ligor Uryash, piano. Barbican, Sik Street, EC2 (0171-838 8891) Tonight, 7 30pm.

ELSEWHERE NUMERON OF LAND AND SECTION AND COMPANY PROPERTY OF BRITISH PROPERTY OF BRITISH PROPERTY OF SECTION AND ADDRESS OF SECTION AND ADDRESS OF WATER LIGHT AND COLOUR OF THE SECTION AND ADDRESS OF WATER LIGHT AND COLOUR OF THE SECTION AND ADDRESS OF THE SECTION ADDRES

ELAS YOU LIKE IT SERVE PRINTS

superbly cast production. Barblean, Sax Street, EC2 (0171-638 9891) Tonight and tomorrow, 7 15pm mat Sat, 2pm in rep (2)

☐ BIRDY, Northern Exposure's Rob Morrow pans Kevin Knight's clist in Naom Walface's lascanating vention of HIS WITH WHILLTON HOWIE . pay when the transfer of t

Walters is play set on a south Londo ectate Corwinding dialogus, thin on plot. Royal Court Theetre Upstains (Stage), Ambassadors, West Street, WC2 (0171-565 5000) Finel performances longht and tomorrow, 8 45pm, met Sal, 4pm.

DIMERITORIS France Lauding La bright transcript the cast for Susan Carlos, and Lee Surveys the da fine cast for Susan Glaspel's 1920s drams exploring the declare of Annanous Fronter declares. A play once decorded as worthy to rank alongelide the behavior. Orange Tree, Clarence Street, Richmond (0181-940 3833). Mon-Sat, 7 45pm; mets Thurs (March 6, 13), 2,30pm, Sat 4pm. Uniti April 6

III IVANOV Rulph Pleaves heads a appointed case that includes Harrin Walker and Clave Ford Craves, in

NEW RELEASES

IfOUND (18): Finally from scout two subly leabers and a pile of Mob money, with Jenniter TBy and Gina. Gershon. Descind by the Westbooks

profitors. Checked by the Wast brothers. ABC Tottheolesen Court Road 536 6140) Claphann Picture H 10171-99 2020) Oderovas Ker (0181-315 4214) Massamine (0 4215) Ritzy (0171-737 2121) Virgina: Chalses (0171-352 6096) Haymarkst

 THE CRECEBLE (12): Weighty varien of Arthur Miller's play about 17th-certary witchcraft, with Wincom Rycker, Dervet Day-Lewis and, boat of all, Paul Scofield, Director, Nichotas Hymer.
 Berblean (2) (0171-838-8891) Oderous: Kenstersters (1181-315-4214) Leosater. ington (0181-315 4214) Lele so /0181-315 4215) Marbis A (0181-315-4216) Swies Cottage (0181-315-4220) Ribay (0171-737 2121) UCI Whiteleys () (0910 688990) Vargin Chatson (0171-352 5096)

MARS ATTACKS (12). Tm Burton's aggressively silly and studded spoot of the allen mis rrows, with Jack Nicroscon and Garn

Clapham Pickure House (0171-498 3323) Notting Hill Coronat (5) (0171-727 6705) Odeone: Marble from (0181-315 4216) Swise Cottage (018 (0181-315 <216) Swise Cottage (U16 315 4220) Ritzy (0171-737 2121) Screen/Green (0171-226 3520) UCS WEEKEND CHOICE

A daily guide to arts and entertainment compiled by Gillian Massy

mood, movement and lealing. Prism receives its London premiere in the Pursoil Room on March 19 MAC, Cannon Hill Paris, Edgbaston Road (0121-440 2008), Tonight and tomarrow, Spm. 🔂

CARDIFF: Conductor Grant Liewellyn, fro BBC National Orchestan of Walas and the BBC National Charus of Walas celebrate St Dawid's Day with a performance of Haydri a The Creation. With Rebecca Evans, soprano, John Mark Ainsley, tenor, and Neel Dawies, barlione Sung in German. St Dawid's Hall, The Hoyes (01222 878444). Tomorrow, 7 20pm (2)

ELECTRICAL PROPERTY TRANSPORT Company presents the Europea premiere of Ariel Dortmen's play, Wildows, without in crisiconsists with forny Kushmer Widows tells of the unspoken anguish and anger experienced by the mothers, wives and daughters whose men have caughers whose train value from spent by civil war. Directed by lan Brown. Traverse, Cembridge Street (0131-228 1404). Previews tonight and formorrow,

THEATRE GUIDE

Chelchov's Brsl produced play, Marcha, Almanta Stree, NT (0171-5ta 4404). Mon-Sal, 7.30pm; mata Set, 3pm Until April 5

T LAMBRITTER ON THE SERIE FLOOR: Neil Simon's turny account of working among a team of scriptwriters for committee Sci Casser beas in the 1800s. Garne Water plays Sci. Casser's Swifesbury Avenue, W1 (0171-494 5040). Morr-Sci, Sprn; mate Wed, 2.30pm. Sat, 4pm. Until March 1.

EUCKERCHAMSHERE III LIGHT S-ININI III III BUCKINGHAISHIRE: The National's rectale presentation by Mark Wing Dawy of Caryl Churchil's charms of apocasyph revolution: 17th-century Diggers routed by the properly-owning Cromwell. Mail. res (Con. Soc.). Soc. in Bank, SE (0771-528 2252). Tonight and tomorrow, Mon and Tue, 7-30pm; mate Set and Tue, 2-30pm. Until March 4. III LUV: Revival of Murray Schlegel's long-running 1960s romantic correcty

Clear Promits assessment of films in London and (where Indicated with the symbol ◆) on release across the country

Trocadero (0171-434 0031) Werner **= (**0171-437 A ◆ THE PORTRAIT OF A LADY (12): Jane Cemplen's loby elegant adaptation of Henry James, with Nicole (Scimen as Berkicon (5) (0171 638 8601) Chapters Pictor

Chaptein Picture House (177-498 3223 Gete (5) (1711-727 4043) Luciace (1771-55 0291) Proventa (1781-883 2233) Rio (1771-254 6577) Ribay (1771-727 2121) Screen/Balow Street (1771-425 2372) Screen/Balow (0171-436 3366) UCI Whiteleys (3) (1990 88:657) Vs girs: Fr. in Road (0171-370 2636) Haymarton (0171-539 1827) Warmar (3) (0171-437 4343) When many (0761-538 1176) CURRENT

FERGE CREATURES (PG): Briss cornecty in an English 200, from John Cases and A Fath Called Wands learn With Keven Kinie, Jamle Lee Curis Director, Robert Young ma 2' A Colon such of List Durid Wys50 Years of Sculpture (0171-930
6844) ... Portal Pontal Painters Spring
Exhibition (0171-493 0706) ...
Portand, New Murdon (0171-351
0422) ... Royal Academy: Erequis
The Lists Works (0171-435 7436) ...
Train: Lovis Cortrit (0171-887 8000)
Theo Waddington Fine Art: Nicholes
Harding: Recent Paintings (0171-484
1584) ... Whitechapet: Tony Crugg
(0171-452 7886)

low frouting. We to each troublet but a happy anding. Ned Marcus directs. Jaranya Street, 160 Jaranya Street, SWI (0171-287 2875). Marc Sat, Sprin mats Thurs, Sat, April. Until March 16. M SHOWEY JOE'S CAFE SACHAR "The Songs of Leiber and Stoller". His Broadway compiletion show proarvey companion show celebrating a successful congwriting learn, responsible for Haund Dog, Jathouse Rock and Spanish Hatlen. Primoe of Wales, Coverity Sheet, WI (0171-839 5687). Mon-Set, Sprin, mills Thurs and Set, Sprin

II WHO'S AFFIAID OF VIRGINIA WOOLP?: Diana Rigg and David Suc In Howard Davies's powerful Alredde production of Albes's searing play. Alderych, Alderych, WC2 (0171-416 6003). Mon-Sat, 7.15pm; met Set, 2.15pm. Until March 22.

LONG RUNNERS

□ Blood Brothers: Phoenis (0171-369
1739) ... □ Baddy: Strand (0171-330
8500) ... □ The Complete Works of
Criterion (0171-369 1737) ... □ Ass
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Lycaum (0171-585 1807) ... □ Les
Missérables: Palsoc (0171-434 0096)
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LAST 4 WEEKS

◆ MICHAEL (PG): Regged, indulgent romantic table saved by John Travota's staming role as an angel, With William Hunt and Ancie MacOperal Terr no Access Renategion (0181-315 4214) Martie Arch (0181-318 4216) Suries Cottage (0181-315 4221) Was End (0181-315-4221) UCI Whiteleys (0 (0390 889990) Virgin Chalsen (0171-382 5086)

 THE PHANTON (12: Lightly likesible compositip three, with 56y Zane as the masked righter of wrongs Phase (0990-888 990) Virgin Trocadero (2) (0171-434 0031)

RIDICIALE (15): Patrice Lecorrie's willy and diverting costume place set in Louis XM's court, with Farmy Arctent. Chelses (0171-361 3742) Carzon was End (0171-388) 1722) Rissing (0181-332 0030) Rilay (0171-737 2121)

· SIES THE ONE (15) Anima tamily comedy from Edward Burns. Grector of The Brothers McMadien. With Orecord of the bronzes Michider, William Cameron Diez and John Mehaney Odeoner Kerelington (0161-315 4214) Switze Cacago (0161-315 4220) Pieze (§ 1080 888890) UCI Whiteleys (§ 1080 888890) UCI Whiteleys (§ 1080 88880) Vingina Challes (§ 171-32 5086) Tracedero (§ 10171-434 programme performance into a "hap Queen Elizabeth Hall pening" is to have a preten-

> most of the time they sat; stood or postured, caught in their various predicaments. All the music could have been given as cabaret or in concert and without amplification. Indeed, few of the singers needed it, and its only effect was to deaden the words of the specially written poems. Balance between the voices and the Endymion Ensemble, conducted by an energetic

Wasfi Kani, could have been better. Two composers contributed just one number each: Priti Paintal's starkly effective In my Country was sung by the word-responsive mezzo Hyacinth. Nicholls, and Rotanna Panuinik's My Dark-eyed Baby had an easy flow. In contrast, there was too much aimless music from Ruth Byrchmore, although at least in her Hospital Song to effective words by Jackie Kay) the

monotony was apt.

Katie Cambell's lyrics, filled with good images, inspired some of the best pieces. Jane Gardner's setting of her Lullaby was a highlight, and its sub-Gershwin lines were sung hauntingly by the soprano Lynne Davies. Jenny Miller, Tinuke Olafimihan and Annemarie Sand made good vocal contributions wherever possible.

Evgeny Kissin

Festival Hall

journey of exploration. Behind the remarkable skills of body and mind.

there is a certain detachment. The

ble octave passages supple as wet clay, rhythmic shapes simply@crack-

song. Yet these Hoffmann inspired

and, as in the Fantasiestuck be played

as an encore; they remained at the

For the time being, Kissin seems

stuck, both in his responses and in his

apparently undeveloping repertoire.

Had the audience who rose in a

standing ovation after Kissin's encore

of Liszt's La Campanella ever heard Cherkussky play this work? A sense of

reflection, of the improvisatory, in

short some sense of the transcendente

beyond the éxécution, should surely

be peeping through Kissin's preco-cious virtuosity at this stage.

level of, albeit exalted, reality.

ures are subtitled Phantasien

umder the fir

Divine decadence

Meaningful or meaningless? The glossy publicity face of Passages

THE second programme of Michael Tilson Thomas's Debussy — Painter of Dreams series offered another thoughtful juxtaposition: the choreographic poem Jeior - a masterpiece of subtle evocation - and Le Martyre de Saint Sébastien, an altogether more self-indulgent exercise. sheer physical achievement of his Schumum Krenteriana was formida-

The mystery play by Gabriele d'An-nunzio, for which the latter score supplies incidental music, is a shamelessly rapturous meditation on the of the handsome Roman officer and killed by arrows fired by his own menbecause of his Christian sympathies. Debussy's five-hour epic is generally reduced to some more practicable form, and this performance was of Tilson Thomas's own version, with linking narration occasionally superimposed on the music.

Narrative line is not the point here: d'Armunzio's highly erotic, ecstatic, mystical text revels in sweet suffering. Preposterous stuff? To our ears, possibly, but it can be clearly identified as a product of the decadent tradition, and Debussy evidently took it seriously. So. too does Tilson Thomas, and that conviction carried the day.

Sweeping us through each of the five "mansions" that make up the work, he LSO/Tilson Thomas Barbican

was able to dwell longingly enough where appropriate without losing his way in the heavily perfumed mists. His narrator, Leslie Caron, who has made something of a speciality of the role, was, to my ears, over-amplified, but delivered the text wild her customary panache. The Argentine soprano Paula Almerares, making her debut in this country, floated a beautifully sensuous, consonant-free line. Jacqueline Miura and Anna Larsson took the smaller vocal parts well enough. The London Symphony Chorus (director Stephen Westrop) made soulful contributions. As for Jews, the eroticism may be less

overt, but it is still a vital element both in the scenario (a chance meeting on a tennis court) and in the score itself. Tilson Thomas's reading was not without its crotic charge, although its strength lay in its unfolding of Debus-sy's masterly textures — a miracle of self-renewing thematic organisation.

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33

POP I

U2 try so hard to be trendy on their new album, but Pop lacks authentic snap and crackle



POP 2

... and James's attempt to keep up with the pace is more mishmash than Whiplash





POP 3

... but Suzanne
Vega gives her
eclectic artistry
a twirl to good
effect on Nine
Objects of Desire



POP 4

... and, in concert, Steve Earle captivated his fans with a vintage display of bleak lyricism

POP ALBUMS: The band that dictated trends for so long now follows them, says David Sinclair

U2 in peril of losing the edge

Pop (Island 524 3340 £13.99) THESE are trying times for supergroups. If R.E.M. can fail to hit their sales targets with an album as good as New Advenures in Hi-Fi, then anyone is vulnerable to the restless mood of record buyers. In the past, U2 have been uncannily adept at judging how and when to ring the changes, and Pop confirms them as the consummate rock strategists. But although it is a resourceful, intelligent and at times rewarding record, Pop is not a great U2 album.

It starts with the wonderful Discothèque, a flurry of neat, jokey words, ingeniously double-tracked in different octaves. It suggests a bold, hip, dance rock direction, an impression confirmed by the bustling techno-rhythm and industrial sound effects of Mofo, in which Bono delivers a lyric of mortal intensity in a croaky moan that gradually rises to a tortured falsetto.

However, the promise of these two tracks fails to materialise as the album then drifts into more traditional territory with the metancholy evangelism of If God Will Send His Angels and Staring at the Sun. With the exception of the lovely, rootsy The Playboy Mansion, tunes are generally in short supply, a deficiency which the various production tricks do not alto-

gether remedy.

The cumulative effect of so much religious imagery eventually becomes tiresome, and a bunching up of slow and/or unstructured numbers causes the album to tail off towards the end. It is not that U2 have

ine decadence

. + 2



U2 - (from left) Bono, Adam Clayton, the Edge and Larry Mullen - have not lost the plot on their album, Pop, so much as surrendered the initiative

lost the plot, so much as surrendered the initiative. Whereas Zoaropa and Achtung Baby were delightful new chapters in the story of pop, Pop sounds as if the band have been listening to the Prodigy and Tricky without quite working out where to go

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with these dynamic new sounds.

JAMES Whiplash (Pontana 534

(Fontana 534 354 E13.99)
HAVING retreated from the wilfully experimental approach of their previous al-

burn, Wah Wah, James display signs of Simple Minds syndrome on the more conventional half of Whiplash. There is nothing wrong, per se, with songs such as Lost a Friend, Homeboy or She's a Star, with their sturdy guitardriven structures and gliding, arena-pop choruses. But they do betray a certain hardening of the creative arteries.

As if to counter such accusations, the group adopts a self-conaciously radical approach on several other songs. But, apart from the country-tinged shuffle of Waltzing Along, these are not very good. Greenpeace is a PC polemic about man's malevolent impact on the environment; Go to the Bank offers a strange, electro-pop vision of consumerist hell, and Watering Hole wanders unsteadily down the hypnotic, trip hop avenue. The end result is more mishmash than whiplash.

SUZANNE VEGA
Nine Objects of Desire
(A&M 540 583 £13.49)
SUZANNE VEGA is one of
those people who looks different in every photograph, and
there is a similarly chusive
quality to her music. Her folk
roots remain, most obviously

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in her wordplay, but songs

such as Caramel and Thin

Man now have delicious jazz and Latin influences. Add the dreamy quality of Mitchell Froom's production to the mix and you have an album of sensitive, mercurial grace. There is often a bleak cast to

There is often a bleak cast to Vega's lyrics, as on Casual Match: "A casual match in a very dry field/Fire and ash is the season's yield". But the choruses of Headshots and No Cheap Thrill have the kind of instant uplift that would make even a pure pop songwriter happy.

REPUBLICA
Republica
[Deconstruction/BMG 7432]

AS A band composed of refugees from N-Joi (singer Saffron), Flowered Up (keyboard player Tim Dorney) and Bow Wow Wow (drummer Dave Barbarossa), Republica would have been labelled a supergroup in an earlier era. Instead, they have gone for the Bush-patented "big in America but still to make it at home" tag, thanks to the modest overseas success

of their single Ready to Go and this debut album.

Operating on the cusp of dance and what the Americans call modern rock, their sound could not be more of the moment, even if Saffron's pouty, shouty vocals sound more Shampoo than Garbage. Still, there are many banging tracks that will not have too much trouble competing for attention in the clamorous.

world of young people's pop.

TOP TEN ALBUMS

(8) Attack of the Grey Lentern Mansun (Parlophone)
(2) Spice Spice Girls (Virgin)
(3) The Smurts Hits '97 - Vol 1 Smurts (Mild Card)
(4) Tragic Kingdom No Doubt (Interscope)
(5) Ocean Drive Lighthouse Family (Wild Card)
(6) Blur Blonde Texas (Marcury)
(7) Evita Original Soundtrack (Warner Bros)
(8) Blue is the Colour Beautiful South (Go! Discs)
(23) Everything Must Go Manic Street Preachers (Epic)

Material wealth

BOBBY WELLINS

The Satin Album (Jazzizit JTTCD 9607) THE appropriateness

THE appropriateness of Scottish tenor saxophonist Bobby Wellins's slightly world-weary, vulnerable but cultured sound to ballad material is so perfect that the only surprise about this recording devoted entirely to the songs on Billie Holiday's last great album, Lady in Satin, is that it hadn't been thought of until now.

Wellins effortlessly imbues all he plays with such plaintive tenderness that the emotional impact of the album is almost as great as that of its template. His rhythm section—pianist Colin Purbrook, bassist Dave Green and drummer Clark Tracey—play with exemplary restraint, but nevertheless manage to contribute a number of telling solos. Overall, a masterful display of controlled sensitivity from one of the most original saxophone voices in European jazz.

JAZZ AI BING

STANLEY TURRENTINE Easy Walker (Blue Note CDP 7243 8 29908 2 6)

RECORDED at three 1960s

sessions and featuring McCoy Tyner, Mickey Roker and Billy Cobham among others, this compilation underlines just how great is the loss of Turrentine to jazz proper, immersed as he has been for the past decade in pop-jazz and fusion. On these sessions the tenorman's big. swinging, bluesy sound - even when applied to contemporary pop vehicles such as Burt Bacharach's What the World Needs Now is Love - is rendered all the more effective by being buoyed up by airy rhythm-section work, complemented by Tyner's sparkling

CHRIS PARKER

Now we know the troubles he's seen

hey call him the hardcore troubadour, and no one could ever accuse him of not living the life he creates in song. Faithless women and feckless drifters, reckless spirits and drink and drugs that don't ease the pain — welcome to the world of

Steve Earle.

He comes from Texas but moved to Nashville, he's been to prison, he's had lengthy bouts of heroin and crack addiction and has been divorced five times — remarkably similar, in fact, to one of the restless characters who populate his songs.

Today he has cleaned up, and he looked robustly healthy as he captivated the first of three self-out audiences at the Mean Fiddler with a three-hour acoustic set. This is the best setting in which to see him. With his band Earle's songs tend to coagulate into a long, rocking display of rebel country and Southern hell-raising. On his own he displays a more complicated side.

He is a fine guitarist, adept at the finger-picking styles of the American folk and blues traditions, and he plays harmonica in the gloriously unstructured lashion of the young Bob Dylan. New songs such as Come Back Woody Guthrie display a sensitivity for radical American history. LIVEGIG

Steve Earle Mean Fiddler, NW10

namechecking Joe Hill and Emma Goldman. There are also references to Martin Luther King and Jack Kerouac, and he talks animatedly about his longstanding involvement in Native American rights

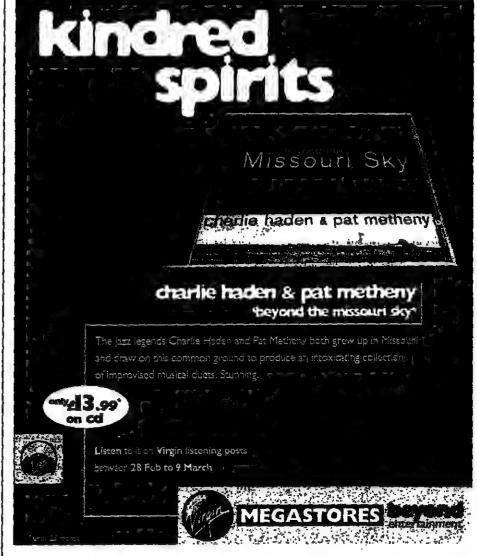
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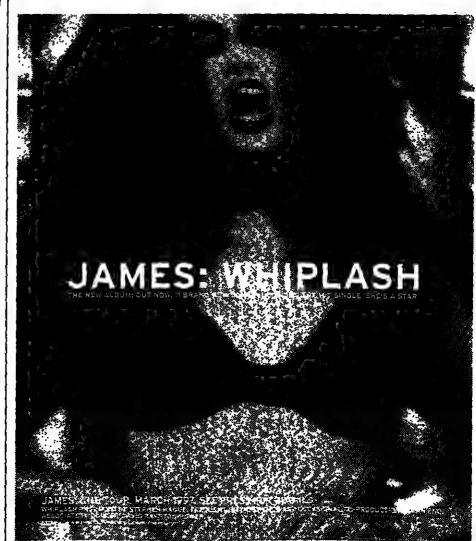
There is also a chilling rendition of Ellis Unit One, which he wrote for the sound-track of the Oscar-winning Dead Man Walking (Earle is a committed campaigner

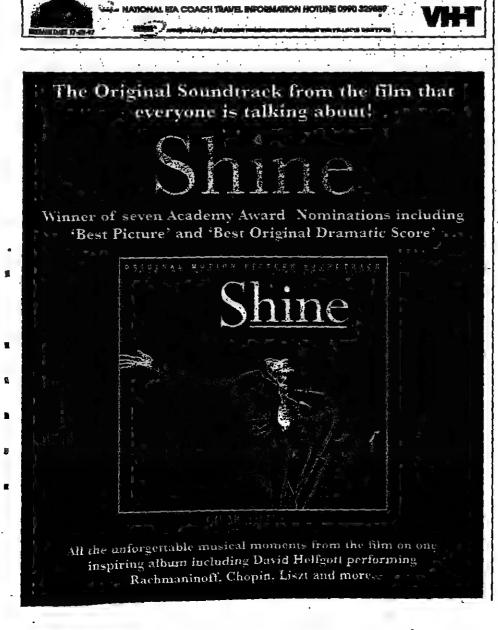
a committed campaigner against capital punishment). His is a bleak world of people trapped in an American Dream gone to seed. Yet there is humour in his cracked voice, too, on songs such as Hometown Blues and The Devil's Right Hand. His most famous rebel rocker, Copperhead Road. is transformed as a simple mandolin stomp, and he ends with I Aln't Ever Satisfied, a song that perhaps sums up not only his life in general but also a career that has delivered much, but somehow always promised more.

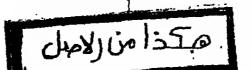
NIGEL WILLIAMSON

• Caitlin Moran is away. Her column returns next week









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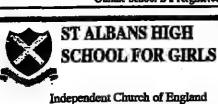
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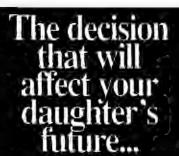
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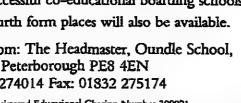
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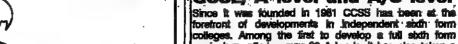
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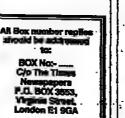
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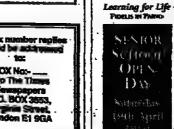
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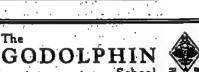


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EDUCATION

Academy of heads

Anne Lee questions the approach of an ambitious attempt to give lessons

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MARKS HOOL

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per cent.
This week, in an effort to improve educational standards and the professionalism of the head teacher the Teacher Training Agency (TTA) launched the pilot of its National Professional Headteacher Qualifi-cation. But will this much-needed qualification do the trick?

Heads say that their most frequent difficulties lie in dealing with staff, resolving arguments, motivating and criticising with tact, dealing with staffroom politics and relationships with governors. They have also said that they are concerned about how to present the school positively to parents and how to deal with the media. Many chief executives will also say that their greatest challenge lies in dealing with people. But the tren-sition from teacher to head is a quantum leap greater than the transition from, say, finance direc-tor to managing director, and the management training needs can be enormous.

Heads have to learn to think like chief executives while retaining the inspiration and humanity that made them great teachers in the first place. This means learning the language of organisation theorists. While many heads grope towards developing the right plans, framing them in the paradigm of organisational development will make their task much easier.

The head who understands how management structures evolveand the management styles needed, will be more comfortable and hassured than one who feels that he or she is constantly trying to paddle

In practice, the head's day is a procession of decisions that rapidly need to be placed in order of importance and urgency. Each decision needs to be made against the knowledge of the options available. The head teachers' qualifica-tion will have succeeded only if he learns to make the right choices. This means giving plenty of time to learn from mistakes made in the privacy of the "Heads' University" rather than allowing experimen-tation on hapless staff, students or

The mixture of teaching methods which the TTA envisages - lectures, case studies, computer simulations and assignments and presentations — suggests an approach typical of an MBA programme. A masters programme is the quality level to which the programme must aspire. Highly qualified teachers would find anything less an insult. However, only the first module on strategic leader-ship and accountability is compulsory. This can be completed in 180 hours (including homework). In only 60 hours, the programme will cover differing leadership styles, the many different organisation patterns and theories, and the monitoring methods available. Presumably, the compulsory module must also include sections on relevant legislation, including employment law, the Children Act and health and safety.

s the devolution of power to schools continues, the compulsory course will need to include work on accountancy skills and computer modelling. Then the head of a large school will be able to plan ahead and monitor progress both financially and academically.

The range of issues that heads have to deal with is wider than for any other type of chief executive. They must be able to think and plan strategically, but they must also know how to harness parents' positive energy, to have productive relationships with the police, the local community and to deal with a governing body that may have diverse and sometimes idiosyncratic interests. The head must be a major link with the outside world. A head



A challenge: Peter Clark, acting head of the troubled Ridings School

who is clever and quick to spot opportunities in business or the community can enrich the lives of pupils in the school, and can increase their aspirations.

Heads will also be working in a world in which many have been on courses to learn negotiating skills and project management - not topics that many in education have previously encountered.

From the broad issues to the individual - inspiring a recalcitrant teenager to see a future, an angry parent to understand the need for discipline - no other role has so many stakeholders.

Heads who in the past have satisfactorily completed an MBA type of programme have either done it full-time or at the expense of health, friends and family. If we want most or all of our heads to undertake a meaningful learning experience, time off work will have to be made available

We need to ensure that never again does Ofsted have grounds to castigate so many heads. A thorough evaluation of this pilot, and a comparison with the training programmes which other chief executives undergo, will be essential. Management education does not come cheaply or quickly. Only if pitched at the right level will it become the national jewel we need.

■ The author is governor of Queens-wood School, Hatfield, Hertfordshire, a

Viv Wakeham on why a school took the Government to court

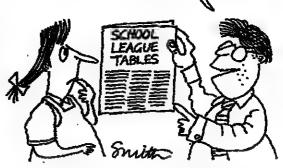
The governing body of West Horndon County Primary School could hardly be described as a radical group. All the major parties are represented on it and the governors are mostly professional people, some retired. Yet last month we went to the High Court to challenge the Government over the format of the primary school league tables to be published in March.

We felt strongly about this issue because the tables will be so unfair to our school, a small village school in rural Essex, of which I am head teacher. Of the local children who took the standard assessment tests last May, 50 per cent achieved the "expected" Level 4 or above in English. Yet the league tables will show that only 35 per cent achieved this standard.

The reasons for this are entirely beyond the school's control. First, of the 120 children in the school, 20 are placed by the local education authority in a special unit for speech and language disorders, All these children have state-ments of special educational needs, which mean that their difficulties place them in the bottom 2 per cent of the population. None of them lives in the area served by the school, some coming from as far away as Chelmsford (15 miles) and Maldon (25 miles). Yet their results will be included in those for the whole school and will inevitably lower the percentage achieving Level 4.

Secondly, the 11-year-olds of West Horndon were unlucky last May. Four of them missed some or all of the tests. One was hit on the head by a golf club while playing in the park. He was lucky not to lose the sight of the eye. He actually returned to school for the final tests, still in great pain, but by then he had missed one paper in each subject. Another child suffered a severe allergic reaction just before the tests and was taken to hospital. In a school the size of ours, four children represent 24 per cent of the eligible pupils, and those absent from the tests are deemed to have failed.

We went to court to argue that the percentage of children who actually took the tests should appear in the tables and those in special units should be excluded. With astonishing contempt for the professionalism of headITS ALL DOWN IN HERE-GET A LOW MARK AND THEY LL GIVE YOU A LONG HOLIDAY!



When league tables tell lies

Education and Employment argued in court that to publish the percentage of actual pupils, rather than those who were eligible, would encourage schools to "authorise absences for holidays" for low-attaining pupils.

The department also argued that there was no difference between children with special educational needs in their local school and those in special units. The judge, Mr Justice Harrison, accepted the points we made,

saying: "One can understand the concern which has been expressed by the school ... I fully understand why they feel as they do." He added that the tables will "make the results look poorer than they in fact are ... that is a matter of concern."

But the law gives the Secretary of State very wide powers to "publish information in such a form and manner as she considers appropriate". The judge concluded that the proposed format was not actually perverse, which was the only basis for a legal challenge. Though the application was turned down, we are pleased to

about the validity of the league tables. Funding for schools is based largely on the number of pupils on roll. Even one or two parents choosing an alternative school for their child on the basis of this misleading information could affect the viability of small schools in particular.

Schools are already increasingreluctant to admit children with special educational needs because they are expensive to educate and have a potentially damaging effect on league table position. Including the results of children in special units will deter most schools from agreeing to have one.

In court, the department repearedly made the point that the tables are only one source of information about a school. All schools now publish a prospectus with much fuller information. and encourage parents to visit before making a decision.

We hope that parents will consider such things as the range of the curriculum, the level of care for children, how happy they are in school and the extracurricular activities on offer, rather than limited statistics in league tables.

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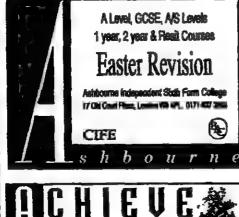
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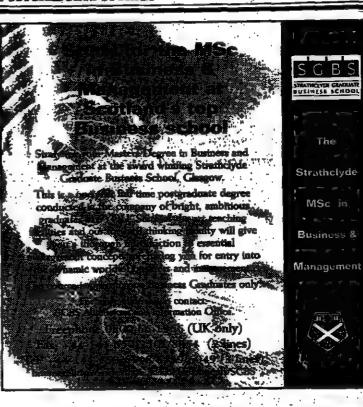
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- Ceramics Thin and Thick Films
- Electronic Materials and Processing
- Fracture Mechanics
- Rheology
- Corrosion
- Surface Engineering
- Non-Destructive Testing

The School of Communication Studies has a staff of 29. It is embarking on research in the following areas:

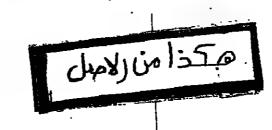
- Media Effects
- Public Opinion and Persuasion
- International and Intercultural Communication
- Organizational Communication
- Impact of Information Technology & Society

The research activities take place in modern, extremely well equipped laboratories. The university is equipped with modern information technology systems. to support the research and to encourage academic and personal communications via an extensive network. The library which holds over 450,000 volumes

The University invites applications for Research Scholarships by graduates (and those graduating this academic year) who have obtained a good honours. degrees. The Scholarship is normally available for two years for a Master's degree candidate and three years for doctoral students, government of the Scholarship is normally available for two years for a Master's degree candidate and three years for doctoral students, government of the Scholarship is normally available for two years for a Master's degree candidate and three years for doctoral students, government of the Scholarship is normally available for two years for a Master's degree candidate and three years for doctoral students, government of the Scholarship is normally available for two years for a Master's degree candidate and three years for doctoral students.

Application forms can be obtained by email: gleong@ntu.edu.sg or by fax: 00 65 791 1604 or by writing to The Registrar, Nanyang Technological University, Admin Annex, Level 1, Nanyang Avenue, Singapore 639798.

For more information about our University and the exciting research opportunities, visit our web site at http://www.ntu.ac.sg/



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Burns CS, Burns J M, Burns K,
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Buxton R H, Byrna P, Byrne W N

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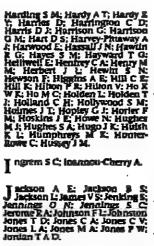
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The Institute of Legal Executives Fellowships Admissions 1996

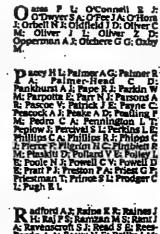
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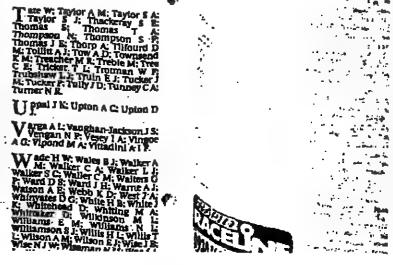
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9.00 High Alltitude

Carl Evane 4.00 Miles Milliomox.

RACING: GROWING SUPPORT FOR IRISH-TRAINED CHAMPION HURDLE HOPE

I'm Supposin invites speculation

PACING CORRESPONDENT.

I'M SUPPOSIN emerged as a Champion Hurdle "springer" yesterday - and an examina-tion of the Irish raider's smart Flat form helps to explain

why. The Kevin Prendergast trained five-year-old, who will be ridden at Cheltenham by Charlie Swan, finished a fine fifth in the Irish St Leger behind stablemate Oscar Schindler. He was beaten only half a length by Pilsudski, the subsequent Breeders' Cup Turf winner, in the Royal Whip at the Curragh, and won

the Ulster Harp Derby at Down Royal in July. The heavy support for I'm Supposin, who has won both

Nap: MOONLIGHTER (5.00 Newbury) Next best: Splendid Thyne (2.00 Newbury) .

starts over hurdles this winter. prompted Ladbrokes to cut his odds from 10-1 to 8-1 yesterday. People feel if he can translate that Flat form to hurdles he will come to Cheltenham with an outstanding chance," Mike Dillon, the bookmakers' spokesman, said.

I'm Supposin was given a rating of 112 in the end-ofseason International Classifications, just lib below the mark awarded to Alderbrook in 1995 only months before he won the Champion Hurdle. and superior to the Flat form showed by Collier Bay and Sanmartino.

Prendergast, who saddled Talgo Abbess to finish third to Saucy Kit in the 1967 Champion Hurdle, said yesterday: "I

GOING: HEAVY

(£2,285: 2m 1f) (9 runners)

2.10 Rhythm And Blues, 2.40 Indian Arrow, 3.10 Slazing Storm, 3.40 Normaranga, 4.10 Mammy's Choice, 4.40 Mayb-Mayb.

POLICIA 28 Los 5-11-2 W Marrians 2 W Marrians 2 WTO THE WES 11 Mrs M Japan 5-11-2 Durck Byron 21/ TMY SURFET 285 (6) C Epinion 7-11-2 JA McCardley 405 REPOTEM AND BLUES 13 R Bocker 7-11-2 R Provide 3 TORICA 29 D Bundrido 5-11-2 WK P O'Readio (7) Mry MAD DROUGHS J-0-0000 4-10-4 WK P O'Readio (7) Mry MAD DROUGHS J-0-0000 4-10-4 J WK P O'Readio (7) W MCCARD MCCARD 4-10-5 A Dichard 50 CONTRACT BROOK 29 P Merchay 4-10-5 W McCardley 4-10-5 CONTRACT BROOK 29 P Merchay 4-10-5 W McCardley 4-10-5 CONTRACT BROOK 29 P Merchay 4-10-5 W McCardley 4-10-5 CONTRACT BROOK 29 P Merchay 4-10-5 W McCardley 4-10-5 CONTRACT BROOK 29 P Merchay 4-10-5 W McCardley 4-10-5 CONTRACT BROOK 29 P Merchay 4-10-5 W McCardley 4-10-5 CONTRACT BROOK 29 P Merchay 4-10-5 W McCardley 4-10-5 CONTRACT BROOK 29 P Merchay 4-10-5 W McCardley 4-10-5 CONTRACT BROOK 29 P Merchay 4-10-5 W McCardley 4-10-5 CONTRACT BROOK 29 P Merchay 4-10-5 W McCardley 4-10-5 CONTRACT BROOK 29 P Merchay 4-10-5 W McCardley 4-10-5 CONTRACT BROOK 29 P Merchay 4-10-5 W McCardley 4-10-5 CONTRACT BROOK 29 P Merchay 4-10-5 W McCardley 4-10-5 CONTRACT BROOK 29 P Merchay 4-10-5 W McCardley 4-10-5 W MCCARD 20 P Merchay 20 P

9-4 Rhythm And Shars, 3-1 late The Web, 7-2 Tonies, 4-1 May Seasol, 14-1 Oce In The Eve. 15-1 Applicate. Contract Bracks, 28-1 celests.

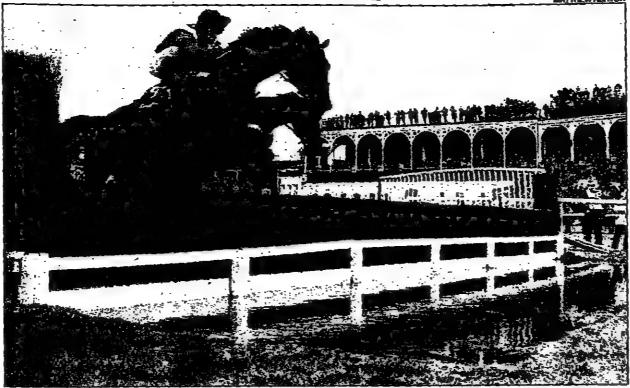
4 Indian Arrow, 6-4 Colon Master, 4-1 Pusheck Canaliar, 28-1 Paudinacek, 25-1 III So Stan, Pikongula

3.10 WIVELSFIELD NOVICES HANDICAP HURDLE

9-4 Conscioling and American Region 4-1 Airst Soft E. 8-9 Sinning Steam, 7-9
Migar State, 6-1 Mont Key, 18-1 Kyba's Revenge

2.40 PLUMPTON NOVICES CHASE (E2,754: 2m) (6)

2.10 CROWSOROUGH NOVICES HURDLE



Tellicherry leaps over the water jump on the way to victory in the novices' chase at Ludlow yesterday

have had four runners at the Festival and all have been placed, but this would be my best chance. He has always been a good horse without getting to the heights on the Flat. When he first jumped a hurdle in November the way he measured it you would think he had been jumping all

his life." The form of I'm Supposin's second hurdle success, in which he beat Finnegan's Hollow by an effortless seven lengths, was boosted when the runner-up came within inches of beating the highly regarded Istabrao, under a hands-andheels ride at Leopardstown Ladbrokes has pushed out Imperial Call, last year's Cheltenham Gold Cup winner, to 5-1 (from 4-1) after reports of a disappointing workout at Clonmel raccourse yesterday. However, jockey Conor O'Dwyer declared himself happy with the horse.

earlier this month. Prendergast cast his eye over I'm Supposin's Cheltenharn opponents and added: "You cannot discard a previous winner such as Collier Bay but the connections of the fancied runners all say they

want soft ground. My horse Hunt racing. The 300-seater doesn't mind any ground. Hunt racing. The 300-seater restaurant will be one of the He's won on soft and hard and has a good cruising speed." With more than three inches of rain having fallen at Chel-tenham since February 10, the going is officially good. Edward Gillespie, the manag-ing director, said a further inch was required before the Festival and if it does not rain

the taps will be turned on. His remarks came at the official opening of Cheltenham's magnificent new livelevel Tattersalls grandstand, the highlight of which is a glass-fronted restaurant overlooking the home of National

lavasories, bars and Tote betting booths, the new grandstand should help to ease the crush which has been a feature of the Festival in recent years as crowds build up to

most sought after - and

expensive — viewing areas next month. The Festival price

tag is £345 per person — and that does not include drinks.

With an ample supply of

60,000 on Gold Cup day. The Horserace Totalisator Bill, which will enable the Tote to bet on non-sporting events for the first time, received the Royal Assent yesterday.

Bahhare's progress delights Dunlop

BY JULIAN MUSCAT

BAHHARE, ante-post favourite for the 2,000 Guineas, has resumed faster work in preparation for the Flat sea-son's first classic at Newmarket on May 3. The unbeaten son of Woodman is to warm up for the one-mile test in the Craven Stakes, run over the Guineas course and distance

two weeks earlier.
"We have just started to
increase the tempo," Bahhare's trainer, John Dunlop, said yesterday from his Arundel base, "I am delighted with the way he has come through the winter. He has strengthened through his back, loin and quarters and he is taking his work well. I would like to get a prep race into him - it wouldn't do him any harm to gain some more

A half-brother to the 1995 champion miler, Bahri. Bahhare was assessed 2lb below Revoque in the International Classifications published last month. However. he is preferred to Robert Sangster's colt in 2,000 Guineas betting lists on the strength of his performance in the Champagne Stakes at Doncaster, where he mastered In Command, the subsequent winner of the Dewhurst Stakes, by 312 lengths in course record time.

In the close sesson Bahhare spent four days with veterinarians at the equine hospital in Dubai, emerging with a clean bill of health. Plans for him to spend the winter in Dubai were later revised. By contrast, Sahm, a stablemate of Bahhare, has been in the emirate for four

NEWBURY

2.00 Get Real 2,30 Top Javalin

3.30 THE TOISEACH (nap) 4.00 Holland House 4.30 infamous

GUIDE TO OUR IN-LINE RACECARD

101 113143 GOOD TIMES 13 (RF.F.G.S) M/rs D Robusson B Hall 12-0 ...

2.00 ardington national hunt movices hurdle (E4,0698: $2m\ 110\text{yd})\ (17\ \text{naviers})$

SSI-213 SPLENDO THYME 14 (S) (D) (J Salvanomi) T Casay 5-11-4 ... J Dishome (CATREFINNE'S WAY (R Carvott A Tutural 5-11-0 ... (A forwer) D-022 (LINTON 14 (BF) E Tuturans, K Balley 6-11-0 ... G O'Dwyse (36-P CRAMPSCASTLE 32 (M And G Worcester) N Chance 7-11-0 ... G O'Dwyse (36-P CRAMPSCASTLE 32 (M And G Worcester) N Chance 7-11-0 ... P Ryan (7) 13-6 FFY'S NO FOOL (6 (S) Ffy'S NO FFY'S NO FFOOL (6 (S) FFY'S NO FFOOL (6 (S) FY'S NO FFY'S NO FFY'S NO FFOOL (6 (S) FY'S NO FFY'S NO FFY'S NO FFOOL (6 (S) FY'S NO FFY'S NO FF his Track: 3-7 Splendid Topins, 5-1 Set Real, 6-1 Status, 7-1 Strong Tel, 10-1 Styrs Bo Fool, Georgetown, 12-1 Press Folly, 14-1 callurs.

GOING: GOOD TO SOFT (SOFT IN PLACES) TOTE JACKPOT MEETING SIS

1009: SATANCASMAN B-11-4 & P McCov (13-8 ton) & James 18 ton FORM FOCUS

SPLENDIO THYNE 91 3rd of 11 to Dusen DI Spindes in service hundle at Sandouer (2m 110)rd, good). CLINTION 15 2nd of 8 to Peace Lend in Invoke hundle at Sandouer (2m 110)rd, provide hundle at Sandouer (2m 110)rd, provide hundle at Sandouer (2m 110)rd, solt). Thysical relationst DEVE, 440 6000 of 18 to Sandouer (2m 110)rd, solt). Solt 18 to Sandouer (2m 110)rd, solt). Selection: SPLENDIO THYNE.

2.30 HAMPSHIRE NOVICES HANDICAP CHASE (E3,852: 3m) (9 numbers

Long handlesp: Country Kooper 9-12, Purback Rambler 9-2 BETTIME: 9-4 Carchest Plain, 4-1 Lestiny Tieted, 5-1 Kendel Carolien. Sophet May, 7-1 Top Jamelin, 8-1 Ponnacil, 14-1 others:

FORM FOCUS

LDTYERY TICKET best eller 21/41 2nd of 7 to Goldenseath in berickap chase at Newbury (am. beat Super Riccher 131 en 15-namer stance liandings pood) no perutitamete start. (CARDINIAL CAVALLER) best ellert 41 2nd of 5 to Nameres Numer in movice chase at Langdedd Cline, good to sold; Der 96. head Super Riccher 131 en 15-namer attribut motion chase at Langdedd Cline, good to sold; Der 96. head super Namere at Namere attribut motion for 5 to 100 IAVAL Namere attribut in 14-namer attribut motion for 5 to 100 IAVAL Namere attribut in 14-namere attribut in 15-namere attribut in 15-namere attribut in 15-namere attribut. The 15-namere attribute attribute

3.00 GEOFFREY GILBEY HANDICAP CHASE (£4,429: 2m 11) (4 runners) Long handicate: High Althoir 9-13, Kings Charry 9-13. BETTING: Exces Make Oddy, 9-4 High Allbande, 4-1 Junes The First, 6-1 Kings Charry

1888: MISTER ODDY 10-11-4 J Cullary (2-1 July J King 7 mm

FORM FOCUS

AdSTER CODY and Lord Coreal filt in 4-conter burst-on chance at Sendown (Zm. group). Proviously held HIGH ALLTITUDE (7th busies oil) 154 in 7-contex burst-on chance others over course and distance (prod) with JAMES THE FRIST (8th butter oil) pulled by JAMES THE FRIST (8th butter oil) and the proviously of the proviou

3.30 SCOTTISH EQUITABLE/JOCKEYS ASSOCIATION SERIES HANDICAP HURDLE (Qualifier: £3,288: 2m 5) (12 numers)

LAITE CAPERA have the last to the Person 115 in 12-namer povice burdle at Respon Attors (2m 11 heavy) have 66. THE TURSEACH base after 71 and at 5 in 71m in heardings hundle at Remarks (2m 51 in 12 heard of 15 in 71m in heardings hundle at Remarks (2m 51 in 15 in 71m in heardings hundle at Remarks (2m 51 in 15 in 15

4.00 PETER HAMER MEMORIAL HUNTERS CHASE (Analous: \$1,576: 3m) (6 runners) [VILLARD HOULAND HOUSE 16 IDJEFFG.S) (E Rought) P Cleanings 11-12-5 C Vigors (S) 68
501 19-5 HALS MILLEROOK 18 (D.E.S) (D Galdenouthy D Salesmouthy 9-12-0 E Williams (T) 81
503 28-9 CLIBEROSSH LAD 20P (F.G) (T Sadielick) Mrs J Sandfield 9-1-14-0 E Block (T) 64
504 309/0-P2 MEDIANE T V.E.S.) (D.E.S. A William) Mrs. A Wilson 12-11-9 Salesm Andrews (3) 62
505 47 OTTER RIVER 680 (O Carter O Carter 6-11-9 Salesm 12-11-9 Salesm (T) 5
506 63-2 PRODUCE MISSE 2 (S) (D) Salesm (B-11-9 Salesm 13-11-0 Salesm (T) 5
507 17862 8-11 Holland House, 7-2 Mass Hüllbrook, 5-1 Clobarchyn Lad, 12-1 Proviole Musse, 16-1 Glar Rover, Maddie

1996: COLDMAL XELLY 6-11-6 Mr P Hasting (11-6 Mr) Mrs D Grissill 6 no

FOLLAND WILE but Set to be themed thereof in 14-namer instance class at Coolernam (Am 1), good to soft on paradiffrate start, for 96. MISS La LINDON best Cape Colors 20 to 16-country class at Heritage Cam 17 (1904, good to 16-country class at Heritage Cam 17 (1904, good to 16-country class at Heritage Cam 17 (1904, good to 16-country class at Heritage Cam 17 (1904, good to 17 to 17

4.30 HIGHCLERE JUVENILE NOVICES HURDLE (4-Y-0; 23,652; 2m 110yd) (13 runners)

1996: HATTA BREEZE 10-5 R Johnson (3-1) D hackelson 8 cm.

CRECUS STAFF SI 2nd of 20 to Find Romes in number handle at Location (2m, good to soil).

20 to Solendid Thyme in coasten handle at Longlisto (2m 110pd soil). TAKEAMEND 101 3nd of 15 to the American Composition of 11 to Red Rays in novice handle at Warmet (2m, good in the SALTY GETL.).

2016 6th and HISAR 45t 9th, ZALSAN 581 14th of Solections DEFAMOUS. 5.00 WHATCONBE CONDITIONAL JOCKEYS NOVICES HANDICAP HURDLE

BETTRIES: 7-4 Captern Jack, 2-1 Stortow Passage, 5-1 Fladey Wood, 8-1 Moonlighter 10-1 Unstalable Bo 1 Lord Walne, 15-7 Lauren's Treasure 1996: FANTASTIC FLEET 4-10-3 5 Coman (9-2) Miss J Donle 11 mm

STOR-out PASSAGE of the set 11 to Manufacture of the set 12 to Manufacture

COURSE SPECIALISTS Figs. 113 64 100 49 49 88 JOCKEYS

TRAINERS

4.10 CHARLEY HAMDICAP CHASE

5-4 Rans Babillori, 11-9 Nanony's Cheen, 5-1 Waspit, 5-1 Parlare, 7-1 Galden

4.40 PORTSLADE HANDICAP HURDLE

3,40 cookseridge maiden chase

(£2,541: 3m 1f 110yd) (9)

(E1,942: 2m 4f) (7)

1 185. TOM'S GET 21 F (E.D.F.G.S) M Pipe 5-12-0. C Minude
2 181. GLA VOSEE 16 (E.S) R Rove F-11-9. D G Sames
3 0000 ST VILLE 11 (D.F.G.S) B Rovel 11-11-2. B Powel
4 POLE RING'S GOLD ST Win I, Restords 7-10-6. M Restords
5 010 SCRET'S GET (D.F.S.S) J Invited 6-10-2. T J Marying
5 0110 SCRET'S GET (S. J. Invited 6-10-2. T J Marying
7 5995. GURET MUNICHIST ST P Marying 4-10-0. W Minuston
2 0 Mary 12-1 (Graft School Control C 2-1 Stds Vogos, 5-2 Mayo-Mayo, 7-2 Tonys GM, 8-1 St Ville, 12-1 King's Geld, Canal Martinella, 14-7 Scipt.

COURSE SPECIALISTS TRANSFRS: J. Montale, 7 minuters from 15 narmers, 46.7%, C. Egenton, 12 from 29, 41.4%; M. Phys., 12 from 30, 40.0%; Mrs. L. Britante, 5 from 15, 26.7%, B. Mann, 5 from 41, 18.5%. JOCKEYS: A P McCoy, 14 winners from 50 mins, 20.0%; M Factoria, 9 from 40, 20.5%; W McCortard, 7 from 42, 16.7%, D O'Selfvan, 12 from 52, 14.6%; T J Marphy, 3 from 21, 14.5%; W Microton, 3 broto 23, 13.0%.

PESIKES FROM VESTERIONES FOUR MESTINGS

Wetherby

Going: heavy
2.20 (2m hole) 1, GODS SQUAD (R
Supple, 4-1): 2, Good Vises (4-5 tav): 3:
Bentier Count (33-1), ALSO RAN: 16 Lord
Fortune (4th): 11 ran 181, 91 J Marches
Tote (28.50): 21.20, 12.30, 12.30, 20.70, DF:
25.10, Trice 271 to CSF 28.08. 2.50 (2m 4) 110yd ch) 1, FIVER UNSHION (P Carbery, 4-11 fav); 2, Thos Gold (5-2); 3, Alicat (20-1), 3 ran, 13, det. J Howard Johnson, Tole: \$1.40 DF: \$1.80, CSF: \$1.52.

C152.
Supple, 13-81; 2. Smart Approach (8-1); 3.
Military Academy (11-10 lay). ALSO RAN.
7 Share Options (48); 7 ran. 16, nk.
Paumont, Tote: 22-40; 27.10, 22.30 DF:
19-50 CSF £13.48. 19 50 CSF £13.48.
3.50 (2m ch) 1 POLITICAL TOWER (A Dobbin, 6-5tel), 2. Regal Romper (2-1); 3. Cross Cannon [13-4), 3 ran. 6, 131. R Nbon Toter £2.10 UF: £1 10. CSF: £3.87 4.20 (3m 11 ch) 1. COVERDALE LANE (R Gussi, 3-1 #4m); 2. Gold Pipeon [8-13: 3. Garbo's Boy (12-1) ALSO PAN: 3-1 1-hav D Arbiny Street (4th), 9 ran. £91 chi Airs S Smith Tote: £4.50; £1.90. £1.20, £5.90. DF. £120 0 This £136 70 CSF: £25.04 Tincast £220.26

Tricast 2230.35
4.50 (2m 4/ 170yd roller) 1, INTO THE WEST (R Guest, 11-2), 2, Enchartlad Cottage (11-8 ker), 3, Researchaldy (9-1) ALSO RAN, 4 Dont Forget Curlis (401) 7 ran, NR Essmal Ctly, Mock, Thai, 4, dis. Mrs S Smith, Totle £5,20, £24,0, £1 0, DF; £7 00 Tric £19.70, CSF; £13.31 Tricast P62 34. Pacapot: £52.70. Oxadpot: £15.00.

Ludiow

CUCIOW

Going: good

2:10 12m halle) 1 GREEN GREEN

DESERT (D Bridgwater, 9-1), 2, High In
The Clouds (S Wynne, 6-5 tex), 3, Fash (1)

Jents, 33-1), ALSO RAH: 3 Moonas (8th), 5

Rémyolt Legerd (4th), 16 Flond, 50 Blaze

Of Song, Churchworth, Formideble Partner

(8th) Totrais, 66 Fenner's Quasa, Suppery

Fin. 100 Admiral Brury, Gessway, Glen

Garnock, Noblesse Obling, Salecracker,

Sharp Command, 18 ran, 344, shind, 51, 71,

31 O Sherwood at Upper Lambourn, Tota:

59 70, 22 0 61.10, 611 90 DF: 59 30

Thor £182 90 CSF-£18.34



Comprehensión

2.40 (2m 4f ch) 1, TELLICHERRY U
Cultory, (1-8 fau); 2, Coole Hill (R Johnson,
7-1/; 3, Jessiu (5) McNelli, 3-1) ALSO RAN;
25 Eleanora Muse (I), Summer Haven, 33
Country Town (nth), Rent Day (8th), 68
Derrop Han (pu), Lamborni (8th), Tinker's
Custs (pu), 10 ran; NK, 13, 15L hd, dist.
Miss H Knight at Westings. Tote (2.20;
C1 h0, 57 50, 57 40 DF 53 h0, 76c; 82 90.
CSF 33.94.

CSF- 23.94.
3,10 (3m ch) 1, RECTIONY GARDEN (A.
3,10 (3m ch) 1, RECTIONY GARDEN (A.
Thomban, 11-8 fev, Richard Evans a napt.
2, Romany Craek (A.P. McCoy, 5-2); 3,
Dond Tell The Wile (J. Calloy, 16-1), ALSO
RAN 4 Act Of Parisment (Shi, 9, Alos
Smith (Shi, 20 Royal Secon (4th) 8 ran.
194, 7L 12, 21, 31, T. Forsier at Downton.
Total: £2.10, £1.50, £2.20, DF: £3.30, CSF:
£4.92

CORR 12 10 yet hole? 1. JACKSON FLORA CAR SET 110 yet hole? 1. JACKSON FLORAT (X Alzpuru, 19-21; 2. Operation (J R Kawaresch, 13-2); 3. First Cruck (S Wymne, 7-1) ALSO RAN: 5-1 Alzo Desert Force, Miss Margold, 19-2 Femely Fige, 48th, 14 Ster Performer (Birt), Viscoure Tully, 18 Better Bythe Glass, Hoodownies (pu), 20 Bettern Cuttsurst (Stit), Denring Bridge, 25 Bonsymposts, Morries Jely (pu), 50 Despring Life (pu), 15 nar. 29-1, 32, 291, 194, 194, 17 Thomston Jones at Upper Lambourn. Total: 29.00; 23.20, 22.00, CSF E44.82, Tricesci. 2291.78.
4.10 (2m ch) 1, CAPE COTTAGE (Mr. A.

Tricr £102.20. CSF B44.82. Tricrest. £291.78.
4.10 (3m ch) 1. CAPE COTTAGE (hir A Philips, 7-2). 2. Foir Pointer (hir J. Julies, 5-2). 8. Inch Maid (Mais H Brockerse). 10-11 lev). ALSO RAN: 14 Ster Onle (pu), 25 Ning OI Stredome (pu), 65 J B Led (44h), Kinglisher Bav (8th), Welch Lightning (5th) B ran 31 M; deit, diet, shi hd D Caro at Malmesbury. Tota: \$5.30; £1 10. £1.80, £1 10. DF: £1.80 CSF: £1.22.
4.40 (2m § 11)pd hdie) 1, IONIO (J R Kassmagh, 5-2); 2. Cherokee Chief (M Retrants, 2-1 lev); 3. Ezzmak (J Culloy, 7-2) ALSO RAN 8 Brookeen Chief (M Retrants, 2-1 lev); 3. Ezzmak (J Culloy, 7-2) ALSO RAN 8 Brookeen Chief (M Retrants, 2-1 lev); 3. Ezzmak (J Culloy, 7-2) ALSO RAN 8 Brookeen Chief (M Retrants, 2-1 lev); 3. Ezzmak (J Culloy, 7-2) ALSO RAN 8 Brookeen Chief (M Retrants, 10 Assoc); 12 Carlingtond Gale (8th), 25 Kylami (I). South West Express, 33 Allater Goodguy, 50 High Hended (8th), 68 Roc Age, 100 A Badge Too Fer (pu), Brookeen Chief (M Retrants, 10 Assoc); 12 CSP (2 CSF); 77 CSP (

Jackpot: £33,207.50. Placepot 25.50. Quadpot \$2.80.

25.20, 27.40, 21.70, 13.50 to 19.50 to 15.50 CSF; 27.75.

\$.10 (2m Rat acce) 1, BENVENUTO (\$ Michell, 9-21; 2, Good Lord Murphy (L. Harvey, 8-1); 3, Ea Go († Bastiman, 100-50) ALSO RAN; 11-8 fav Ask in Time, 6 Riscot (6ft), 17 Mass Match (5th), 20. Boundohomour, Strong Magne, 35 Count Karmusski (4th), Grager Watt, 50 Counto, Celto Carrol, Gallart Telfy, Haberdesher, Oriental Boy, Two Lords, 65 Ta-Ra-Abt, 100 Miss Mightly 18 ran, 10, 54, 6, 4, 9 K Bastey et Upper Lambour, Totar 55.80; 21.00, Cs 40, 52.20 DF; 528.40 Telor, 133.207, 50. 4.55 (Int) 1; Eastleigh (J Culnn, 16-1); 2; Begehot (11-4); 3; Tugamole (64 tay) 8; an NR: Annesty Bey, 4, 394, 8; Hollinshead; Tore £12.70; £3.30, £1.70, £2.50, DF: £13.40 Tite: £23.11) CSF-£56.08, Titeast £127.57.

1%1, 1%1. N Wellan, Tohn 238.90, 28.90, 23.10, 22.30 DF: \$157.80. Tricr not won spool of 2297.56 carried forward to 3.30 at Newtony today? CSF: \$214.35, No biol. 2-80 (2m ch) 1, Mr Ecotton (Mr S Surfers, 8-11 fart: 2, Charrytle Quest (17-1); 3, Colonial Kelly (12-1), 8 rab. 5, 121 Mrs M Revealty 70th E1.80, E1.80, E2.10, £1.70. DF: 08 10, CSF: £10.08 8.00 (7m ch) 1, Cariboo Gold (J Daborna, 10-11 truy); 2, Bidahis Bartin (14-1); 3, Biazar Morniore (7-1), 7 mn. 3, 131, K Bailey Tota E1.80; £1.40, £4.40 DF; £10.40, CSF £73.24. 3.50 Stm 21 hole) 1, Plying Gunner IP Nassey, Evens lav); 2, Barrly Hill Lad (25-1); 3, Saccount (7-2) 15 rat. Hd, 33-1 D Nathalacon, Total (23-1); 5 150, (25-0), 61.40. DP 129-50 Trior (28-30, CSF 128-10. 4.50 (2m of 110m) ch) 1, Teinelin (M Willemann, 6-61: 2, High Lewis (7-1), 3, Auto Mole (11-10 law), 6 cm, 134, dist. Capi T Forster, Tobs: 21-80; 21-40, 21-70. DF: 28.90 CSF: 28.76. 4.30 Sim chi f. Bitolumbup (bi P Finciding, 7-2 ji-lan); 2, Ani- Antony (7-2 ji-lan); 3, Broad Steame (7-2 ji-lan); 13 nm - NRt Amazon Lily, Samt Barel't, 114, 154 Noberts, Fone: 64.00; 12.50, 21.50, 51.50. DF: 53.80, Trior 25.60 CSF: 212.51.

LPT ISSUM LING (EASD USP ETIZE)T.
SLID (3m 23 holis) 1, Red Lighter (J. Osborne, 12-1); 2, Effectual (9-2); 3, Taly (9-1). Doctoresusty 4-1 few 12 ram NFT Linestice, What Jun Wanta, 68, 381 J Celo Tole: 620,70: 53-30, 61-50, 52-10. DF-529-50 Tyle: \$180.90. CSF .054.84. Tricael: 6482.25. Plucapot: \$17.50. Quadpot: \$4,80. Lingfield Park

Golng: standard 2.25 (1m 4) 1, Ae-to IK Steet, 5-2; 2, State Ol Gold (11-4); 3, Neon De'on (20-1). Leg Beforum 15-8 fav 6 ran. 2, 51 M Johnston. Tota: 52-90; 21-30, 21-40; DF- (3-00) CSF-59-05 25.65 (S) 1. Resease Hope (K Fallon, 10-1); 2. Lord Sky (11-2); 3, Sir Tasker (13-2) Sowelfie Grange 11-4 fee 7 nm. 1%, sh d C Feithurst Tote, E12-50; E3-40; E1-80. DF C13-00 CSF: E55-20. After a stemants: Inquity, result stood 3.25 (7) 1, Barbeson (Cano) Monte. 11-2); 2, Devealb (7-4 tan), 3, Arka's Corresse (8-1), 3 can, NR; Island Prince 194, rs. 5, L Moore, Tote 27:00, 12:00, 13:50, 12:10. DF 17:00. Tric. 527:50. CSF: 14:48 7/6:ast 17:291. 3.55 (1m 2) 1. Rewring Stag (A Clark, B-1) twy; 2. Around Fore Albes (16-1); 3. Solar Dawn (14-1). 6 ton 71, 2. P febthal. Tola: 21,40; 21.10, 22.10. DF: 28.20 CSF: £16.32. 2 to 32.
4.25 (2mg 1, Scolpana (5 Drowne, 9-4 law):
2. High Fave (11-2); 3, Masthias Mystique
44-1) 8 ran NR: Lord Etargowith, 18, R. R. Plowler Tota, 23 OC; 51:30, 52:50, OF;
27:50, CSF £13:50.

SOUTHWELL

2.15 Meradi, 2.45 El Nido, 3.15 Rold Frontier, 3.45

DRAW: NO ADVANTAGE GOING: STANDARD 2.15 SKEGBY MAIDEN STAKES

(3-Y-0: £3,371: 1m 4l) (7 runners) 6-4 Mand, 4-1 Tooks Of My Tacs, 9-2 Sand Day, 8-1 Weedland Hymph, 8-1

2.45 HORMANTON CLAIMING STAKES (**£2,788**: 1m 61) (9)

1 1450 UNDAWATERSCUBADANA 11 (C.S) M Birthy 5-5-12 8 (00- CULPOW 617 Catherell 6-8-0. P Feating (5) ?

7 06-0 SHP*S DANCER 21 (5) E Indica 4-8-2. Right Tribide 6

8 100FT TERMS SI 2461 I final 6-8-1. Dump Modifier (5) 5

9 06-0 DUTCH DYAME 48 6 English 4-7-12. A Day (5) 2

5-0 B Mide. 4-1 Shard Crq. 5-1 Undersatercalpoline, 11-2 Aristop, 14-1 Ship's

3.15 MARKHAM MOOR HANDICAP

7 MR12 ELTON LEDGER 11 (V,CD,EF,F,C) Mrs. M Macaniny 8-8-8

4-1 Stages Black, 5-1 Coder Gift, 5-1 Bald Elleri, 7-1 Salommin, 8-1 Ellen Ledges, Braudshars Beauty 10-1 others 3.45 RETFORD HANDICAP (E3,566: 1m) (14)

4.15 RUFFORD SELLING STAIGES (53,095: 1m) (7) n. von) (21.6 3-1 Super, 7-2 Streinerr Dames, 9-2 Hutters Fat, 5-1 Major Mosse, 6-1 Filig Fas, 7-1 Deset Voucits, 8-1 Maz Operes

4.45 TEXTFORD HANDICAP (\$2,433: 1m 4f) (14) 1 2111- COMPASS POWER 70 (C.S.) J Brains 4-9-11 Marin Degre (S.S.) O Vision (S.S.) 2 2223 MNFFUN 18 () UF () () Moore 5-0-3. Distinct Owner (3) 5
3 0-41 GREAMATA 19 (CD)(3) 1 Store 5-0-13. Distinct A
4 0-4-6 NO SUBMISSION 11 (0)(2,0,5) D Craptom 11-5-11 A Contern 7
5 05-4 MNFUNES (ULANT) EST 14 (CD) IN DESTANDA 14-0-10 D INCOME
5 5021 GANGA, RAMIN 11 (CD)(3) II Bycont 5-0-7 Grop. J. Onden 12
7 -225 FRANCHER (ULEST 16 (CF,G) J Eyn 5-6-5. S Busilery (7) 13
8 -802 AFRICAN-PARD 11 D Hopen Joses 5-0-3. G Destar 9
9 3150 GUIMMARTYNIA GERI, 14 (CD)(F,G) J Protes 7-7-11
1 Strands GI 10

10 1084 ROYAL ACCUABA 4 RICEF, E.S.) C. Ladesa, 12-7-10 11 800- NUTRAL RECOVERS 4 (U.S.F.E.S.) C. Jackson 12-7-10.

11 800- NUTRAL 202 (CD.S.) C Bundt 7-7-10.

12 500- NOTRALE 21 (D.) W Britanne 5-7-10.

13 00-3 MR HOMENATY (TJ (CD.SF.S.) S Bounty 6-7-10.

14 Say NOTRIERN CHARRER 2551 E Aston 5-7-10.

15 Forth (T) 14

COURSE SPECIALISTS TRANSPRS. D Visitant. 21 wheers from 101 termers, 20.8%; K Fellon, 19 feet 115, 16.0%; N Gay, 3 feet 25, 15%, O McKeryn, 35 from 252, 12.0%; C Tagens, 23 feet 315, 11.2%; G Options. 23 feet 208, 11 fb. JOCKEYS: R Layele, 10 winners from 90 risks, 11 19, P Roberts, 5 from 45, 11.1%; 5 Drywns, 11 from 142, 10.6%; b R helicales, 28 from 200, 10 0%. Only qualifiers.

مكذا من رلاميل

KEESE

THUNDERER 2.20 Call Me Black, 2.50 Cry Baby, 3.20 Seeking Gold, 3.50 Marello, 4.20 Jiglime, 4.50 Pelacegata

The Times Private Handicapper's top rating: E.St. MARELLO.

Carl Evane: 4.20 Howayman. GOING: GOOD TO SOFT

2.20 CYRIL ALEXANDER MEMORIAL MAIDEN CHASE (£3,599 3m 1f) (11 numers) 2 OFFS ARESTODENES 14 Mes. 1 Marshall 8-71-5 M. Johnston — 2 -003 DESPERATE DAN'S 17 F firmy 8-11-5 M. Dates 90. 3 CSFS FIRE TUBLE 6 Mrs. \$ Boulsonie 7-11-6 M. Feeter 85 4 A0 SULAD 14 (F) 8 Machagent 7-11-6 B Extray 85 -499 LYFORD CAN' 19 Benety 7-11-6 S Melitons (7) — 8 South 7-11-7 Mes. 1 Merchant 19-11-7 Mes. 1 Mes. 1 Merchant 19-11-7 Mes. 1 M

3-1 Cod Mr. Black, 7-2 Subay Pester, 5-1 Fine Tests, 6-1 Two For Clini, 5-1 Milles langus, Yalaya, 16-1 others.

2,50 PENNY FARTHON RESTAURANT SOVENILE MOVICES HURDLE (\$2,749: 2m 110yd) (7)

5-4 Clank Of Secrets, 6-4 Cry Buby, 8-1 igene, 12-1 Pennsipal Bay, 16-1 Arakit's Gent, 20-1 Political Education, 25-1 Jungle Frask

3.20 m & J BALLANTYNE AMATEUR RIDERS HANDICAP CHASE (E3,118: 3m 41) (8)

1 -POP WHAT FETTLE IN COLFESS 6 MICHIES 12-12-9 2 90041 CBLOH 907 13 (4,50,F,6,5) bits J Gradulis 12-12-9
2 90041 CBLOH 907 13 (4,50,F,6,5) bits J Gradulis 11-11-11
2 -18P PROCESN 13 (5,F,6,5) bits J Gradulis 11-11-11
4 -15C HEAMONY CRIEGY 20 (F,6,5) Liedzas 3-10-0. P Cragge 96
5 2123 SEEDING GOLD 22 (5,F,6,1) Broday 6-10-0 bits P Protection (5) 93
6 /67 J JUNIOUS CAPTAN 17 (5) Not J Story 13-0 bits Captan (7) 58
7 0512 GFT 11C BROD 22 (5,F,6,1) bits S Braduana 12-10-0
bit Braduana (7)
8 3466 World E DMARRING 43 (F,6) bits 1 fraction 13-10-0 bit D and (7) 80
3-1 Prot Cap 4-1 Antichara Carata 8-2 DM 70-0 bit D and (7) 80

3-1 Pink Cin. 4-1 Authorous Captain, 9-2 Cill The Bru, 5-1 Hamenly Cilizan. 8-1 Seelang Gold, 2-1 Cadido (soy, 10-1 others.

3.50 HENGESSY COGNAC SPECIAL SERIES FINAL NOVICES HURDLE (£13,745: 2m 2l) (8) 1-2 blander, 5-1 Dece Point, 6-1 Ack The Buller, 18-1 Moder Noss, Branchis, Way, 16-7 Say Spinsters, 70-1 offices

4.20 ALBA COUNTRY FOODS HUNTERS CHASE (Amateurs: £1,982: 3m 1f) (8) 1 PF-5 LITTLE GENERAL SSP (D.P) has 0 MisCommis. 14-12-12 T Scott (T)

2 414- HOWAL JESTER 19P (DD.F.A.S) C Shown 13-12-12 C Sonny (3) 93
3 41-82 SCRIDSTURRS 13P (6.5) J. Alexander B-12-8. J. Alexander [7] 62
4 FP-P LITTLE WENLIGK 19 F.S) Mes b Glavon 13-12-8
4 SE-1 HOWAYAMAN 15 [6.5] K. Anderson 7-12-5. A Parker (7) 95
5 352- SAVOY 315 [63 G Ruberts 10-12-5. A Option (7) 95
7 T1-, GETBER 203 (CD.S.S.) J. Hughers 6-12-6. M Brashburne (7)
8 14F BULICES DELIENT SP (5) Mes R Adher 9-11-12 C Boomer (7) S.4. Japton, 7-2 Savay, 9-2 Projet Jestes, 6-1 Planaphorn, 10-1 Little Methods. 12-1 Back's Delight, 16-1 others

4.50 SHIP HOTEL EYEMOUTH KANDICAP HURDLE

2 4603 PALACESTE FUNG 20 (C.U.S.) A Whiters 8-11-12
3 P-41 SIGLETTERM 22 (C.G.S.) B Microsport 6-11-6. Story 59
4 D065 ELATION 14 (P.G.) G Retrieve 5-11-3. A D06bin 90
5 8513 PRDD 07-WSDN 107 (BFF.5) Mrs A Swedson's 7-11-0 J Sopple 90
6 3065 COMMON SOURD 17 (S.J.) B Sectory 6-10-3. P Microsport 18-10-3
7 (PSTIVAL PARCY 102-17 (C.G.S.) B Microsport 18-10-3
6 Lee (3) PARCH 20 (BF,S.) M Todhumbr 8-10-3. P Carbony 94
9 5553 PALLE SEPALS 53 (7) L Lungo 3-10-4. IN Sopple 95 3-1 Palazegote King, 7-2 Pasah, 4-1 lagisteolon, 7-1 Faibl Ol Vision, 8-1 Eletton, Iraquin Apr., Ballebethifts, 10-1 effects.

COURSE SPECIALISTS

TRANSERS: Jame Storey, 5 winners from 15 natures, 40.0%, Mr. M. Beredey, 35 from 127 28.9%, Mr. J. Goodfellow, 13 from 51, 25.5%, Mr. J. Goodfellow, 13 from 51, 25.5%, Mr. Hammond, 28 from 103, 22.7%, 6 stleaneds, 22 from 104, 27.2%, Mr. Jackson, 15 from 75, 20.0%, Journal, 20 february, 5 from 76, 20.0%, Journal, 5 from 16, 33.5%, 8 General, 20 from 16, 57.7%, P. Carberry, 7 from 54, 20.5%, A Dobbon, 28 from 145, 19.3%, L. Wyer, 12 from 75, 16.0%.

SPORT RK

RUGBY UNION

England

can bide

their time

and win

enham tomorrow. They sug-gest style, whereas I would

promote caution. The notion

that if England can succeed in

an all-out offensive at the end

of matches, then they should

be able to do so from the start,

is naive. Frankly, these people

Rugby is about attrition as

much as it is about flowing

movement. It is obvious that

misunderstand the game.

Rob Andrew counsels against

an adventurous start that

could hand the game to France

an opposition defence is fitter often successfully. and better organised at the start than it is later in a game. it is then that defenders drop off half a yard and gaps open. England would be handing France victory on a plate were they to begin crazily, fall two or three penalty goals behind, and find themselves playing catch-up. Perhaps England's only undoing would be if they did

force the game. This is now a confident, relaxed England, who know what they are doing. A controlled, patient build-up is again what is required. Those who would have them playing off-the-cuff from the start also seem to forget that the opposition this time is considerably stronger than England have faced so far in the five nations

championship.
I liked the look of England's schedule from the start, and they have fulfilled most expectations. It has been the ideal preparation for the France game: a comfortable home victory against a weak Scotland side and then an even better win in Ireland. Of course, it could be the precursor to a fall, but I doubt it. Even at the best of times, the French do not relish the trip to

In the majority of international matches, but especially against France, the physical battle up front dictates results. There is nothing to frighten the England front row. Mark Regan and Graham Rowntree were at their best in Dublin. Martin Johnson and Simon Shaw, in the second row. should be confident of winning a lot of ball. In the back row, Lawrence Dallaglio is in his rightful place at blindside flanker. Richard Hill looks

increasingly impressive, and Tim Rodber is riding high are urging England to start attacking France from the first minute at Twickafter a storming performance

against Ireland. France can -- and I am sure will - release Abdelatif Benazzi, a one-man pack, off the scrums, but I expect England to close him down. The problem with having such a well-known danger man is that the opposition does its homework on him. We did the same in the days of Serge Blanco and Pierre Berbizier. We knew their threat, and sought deliberately to blunt it,

Without Ntamack, Saint-Andrė, Castaignėde, or Roumat, France, vitally, are missing players of character and international experience. Good individuals have taken their places. Like New Zealand, France churn out players of flair and quality, but it is an unsettled side and one that appears to be not quite sure

here it is going.
At Toulouse, Pierre Ville preux was responsible for one of the great club sides. He is assistant coach to Jean-Claude Skrela and the two are looking to produce an ambitious style of play. In the defeat of Wales, though. France made mistakes that would play into England's hands should they be repeated tomorrow.

t is ten years since France won at Twickenham. This fact should be rammed home, because France are acutely aware of it and are intimidated by it. The area where England have excelled in recent years against them is defence, perhaps because everyone knows what France are capable of producing.

There are two reasons to fear the French. One is their fight has to be taken to them. The other is their unpredictability. Lay off them even for a couple of seconds and they are quite capable of producing something glorious.

To use a cricket analogy, England are compiling a solid century. Only if the gaps are there should they go for them, but confidence is high and, although not on the scale of the first two victories, I would be surprised if England did not



Tait breaks clear, wearing the colours of Newcastle, the club that brought him back to rugby union

Tait offers true professionalism Mark Souster meets the Scotland centre

with the ability to revive their season

ONE of the things Alan Tait did with his first cheque from Widnes rugby league club nine years ago was to buy a plot of land in Kelso, on which he had a house built. Despite moving to the North of England, he always intended to return to his roots. For him, as a passionate Scot the Cumbrian accent notwithstanding — the Borders were

The advent of professionalism in rugby union enabled him to fulfil his wish sooner Andrew invited him to join Newcastle, it suited his needs perfectly. His selection for the national side to play Ireland at Murrayfield tomorrow was

It was different for his father, also named Alan, who went south from Kelso 30 years earlier to join the paid ranks with Workington. While Tait Sr encountered hostility on his return, the welcome accorded the younger Tait was symptomatic of

the new spirit of openness within rughy. Kelso greeted many in the wider rugby community feted him as the

instant answer to Scotland's

"I'll have to score ten tries and kick 15 goals to live up to it." Tait said yesterday. He understands why expectaare unrealistic. What he can offer is a mental hardness forged in rugby league and through years as a professional sportsman, something his Scotland colleagues are only

a natural progression. beginning to experience. "I

was surprised that players should immediately be expected to be fitter and stronger just because they were full time." he said. "I guarantee it will take a good couple of years before

job, not fun and games. "It is no use me coming up

to Scotland and being a shy little boy. I am 32 and feel I can have an input. I'll be asking David Johnston Jeoschi to the Scotland backs) if I can put a bit into the training." To Tait, rugby, of whichev-

er code, is intrinsically a same shape, you tackle, you pass and still score tries. So it hasn't been hard. Anyway, it's too late for an old dog to learn new tricks."

The impact he made on the Scotland A side last month, when a strong Welsh team was beaten by 50 points, has left people hoping for a repeat performance tomorrow, when he wins his ninth cap, ten years on from his international debut. His influence and organisational skills were

international, yet he admits to having been "frightened to death". He recalled: "I kept looking at the Welsh team thinking, 'I am up against Leigh Davies, the best centre in Britain last year, and I'm

going to be shown up'." He was not and the call for his reinstatement was heeded. Now, Murrayfield awaits. The wife says she'll give me a clout if tears start coming down my face when I'm singing Flower of Scotland. National Anthem. didn't have the same feeling

After two depressing defeats in the five nations' championship, Tait knows a victory against Ireland is paramount. "We were unlucky against Wales. England were just too strong and, if we don't watch out, they will pull away from the rest of us. We have to beat Ireland. A win is a must. How we do it doesn't

ICE HOCKEY

LACROSSE

common cause

By David Powell, athletics correspondent

THE limp handshake, the soft voice, do not fit the giant. The 6ft 9in, 20 stone, five pints of milk-a-day youth with size 16'z feet who, quite possibly, is

Britain's next great thrower.
At 17, Carl Myerscough is immensely big and immensely talented, an athlete who can say without sounding ridicu-lous that his ambition is to be an Olympic champion and world record-holder, and one whose delicate touch with a paint brush is as much appreciated at Millfield School as is his power with a shot and

"Very artistic," his art master says, and if gold is not yet Myerscough's favourite col-our, it may become so. Training is the most important thing in my life," he said. He eats enormously, sleeps ten hours a night to be fresh for his workouts, and has set his sights on European and world

sights on European and worst junior gold medals before leaving the age group.

This weekend, by way of a stepping stone, Myerscough competes for the Great Britain Under-20 team in a three-parions international in nations international Chemnitz, Germany. At the same time, David Myers-cough has been fighting the difficult fight that most sporting fathers face sooner or later: trying to remain a match

for junior.
Until recently, Myerscough
Sr, though no longer his son's
better or equal as a thrower,
was still level in bench pressing. "He has just beaten me by sid. "He has just dealer me by 2½ kilos," David Myerscough said. "He did 162½ and I did 160." It is not, though, time to give up. While Carl is in Germany, dad will be out to prove that he is among the best of the somethings. In best fifty-somethings in

Europe.

Over the next three days, from some 1,300 competitors, from 33 countries, aged between 35 and 95, will contest the European indoor veterans championships in Birmingham. Myerscough Jr has been as much a source of encourage-

ment to his father as his father has to him and Myerscough Sr is optimistic of a medal in the over-50s shot. A former Lancashire discus

champion. Myerscough Sr re-turned to the sport four years ago, after a 20-year lay-off, to provide competition and inspiration for his son. "If I can still do it, it will encourage him." Myerscough Sr, 53, said. Years ago, with a

lightweight shot bought for Carl, they would practise together in a local park. We used to make it competitive to draw the best out of each other and it soon became that Carl was as enthusiastic as I was," he said. "Now he

has taken over as the motivator. "When they start eclipsing you, you do not like to feel you are going downhill. You know it happens, but you try to hold on to your youth as long as you can. I am involved in the sport that Carl is in and adds to the motivation purpose for doing

At 6ft 2in, and 16 stone, Myerscough ST is less physically imposing than his son. Strength-wise, there is not a lot of difference but he is more athletic and has better coordination, timing and range," Myerscough Sr said. "I think I have passed on to him that wish and willpower, and abilty to train hard." Such is Myerscough Jr's potential that John Godina,

the shot put world champion. from the United States, has agreed to work with him when the young Briton goes to the University of California, Los Angeles, for three weeks at Easter.

Myerscough Sr will be with-out his training partner but, no matter, he has another one at home, Cari's younger brother, Grant.
"I will try and train Grant

while he is away and not waste time," Myerscough Sr said.



Carl Myserscough towers over his father, David

The key issues for school governors. Mark # Margh 14 March 21

For four weeks The Times Educational Supplement will be running free guides for school governors. They offer all the facts, advice and inspiration you need to get the most out of being a governor in 1997. In addition, Joan Sallis (a governor herself) writes regularly from the front line. So visit your newsagent and don't miss your copy of The TES from Friday 28 February.

TES Internet Service at https://www.tes.co.u

Snickers Under-19 Trophy: St Cuthbert's HS 2 St Thomas More 0; Richard Challoner 4 Harvey GS 2: Beauchamp 3 John Port 5 fact, Worcester Sold Form Col 1 Oxford Col 3 English Schools Goodyner Under-16 Trophy: Norton 2 Cardinal Heenan 1; Cay, Shelheld 2 Lubterworth GS 1 English Schools Girls Under-18 Vinitio Trophy: Holgase 4 Frestand 2 (act).

NTERNATIONAL MATCHES: Casch Republic 4 Belanus 1 (at Pedebrady); France 2 Holiand 1 (at Parc dec Princes).

SPANISH CUP: Quester-finels, first legs Real Beds 2 Rayo Vallection 9, Anthroo Madrid 2 Barcelona 2.

ITALIAN CUP: Semi-final, second log: Napoli 1 Internezionale 1 (aet; 2-2 on aggregate. Napoli wn 5-3 on penalties)

POOTBALL

the younger players appreci-

BASKETBALL

GUILDFORD: Europeen champlonable: England 79 Russia 81 MATCHAL ASSOCIATION (NBA)* Secre-mento 111 Boston 105; Detroit 117 Golden State 117, Orlando 98 Marril 96 Indiana 92 Seatile 78 Altanta 79 Matcascaer 22, Marca-sotta 108 San Antorno 89; Process 111 Phil-adelphia 104, LA Cippers 83 Vancouver 80; New York 96 Portland 95 (OT)

CYCLING

Wachneday's late results
FA CUP: Fifth round: Cerby County 3
Coverity Cey 2. Fifth-round replay: Chelrea 1 Leacester City 0 real)
FA CARLING PREMIERSHIP: Southsampton 0 Wentheton 0
COCA-COLA CUP Semi-final, first leg:
Stockport County 0 tricides/sough 2.
NATIONMORE LEARNER: First displayer.
Swindon Town 3 Bernscham: Chy 1
TENNENTS SCOTTISH CUP: Fourthround replayer. Celbc. 2. Hibernam 0.
Harriston Academical 0 Meditement 2 (M.
Broadwood Stackum, Cytes) Partition Assessment of Industries of the Broadwood Statium, Cryde)
BELLS SCOTTISH LEAGUE. Second division: Lung-zon 2 Breath Cay 3 Three division: Lung-zon 2 Breath Gay 3 Three division: East Saturgaths © Adoption to DR MANTENS LEAGUE Present and Northibest 3. Midland division: VS Rugby 2 Termorth 6. Southern division: Bastley 0 St Leonards (1) eros V LAMBCOMD LEAGUE: Premier Obietos Boston United 1 Garesborougt: ? First deficion: Farsley Cette 2 Stockshadge PS 1

AVON INSURANCE COMERNATION, First division: Inswert Town 6 Crysta, Palaco 1: Nonech City 1 Bestel City 4 CAUSENT LEAGUE OF WALES, CHIMIN WELSH CUP: Quarter-final replay: Ownbran 2 Holywoli () Cembran 2 Holywell ()

ENSON WESSEN LEAGUE: First day,
ston: Eastlogh 3 Boursemouth 2.

PONTEN'S CENTRAL LEAGUE: Premier
division: Bolton Wanderers 2. Stackburn
Fovers 0: Manchester United 4 Notingham
Forest 0. First division: Aston Was 1.

Workerhampton Wanderers 0. Second
division: Half City 2 Western 0. Cupt
Group four Southern Letter 0. Greeche

Town 2.
FEDERATION BREWERY NORTHERN LEAGUE: First division: Gusborough Town 2 Durston Federation 1, Straton 1 Ballingham Syntronia 2, Westdram 4 Morpeth Town 2
WINSTONLEAD HENT LEAGUE: First division: Chatham Town 0 Hern Bay 2
COLFAGE CONTINUED COUNTIES LEAGUE: Premier division: Petram 4
Raynes Park Vale 1
NORTHERN COUNTIES EAST LEAGUE: Premier division: Denaby United 4
Liversedge 0, Copt Fourth mundt Brigg Town 2 Gasshoughean Welding 0
JENSON EASTERN COUNTIES LEAGUE: Premier division: Solvan Town Rangers 1 Feberham Town 1; Showmarket Town 0 Wisboch Town 1.

MSLEME LEAGUE: Premier divisions Fartord Town 0 Endelegh 3
SCHOOLS MATCHES: English Schools

iggregate, Napoli will be un persona 2 KUALA LUMPUR: Dunhill Cap: Bosna 2 Induressa O, Zinbaber 6 Metnam 0. Induresa O, Zimbabee & Metham O. COPA LESSHTADORES: Flor round: One-nto Petrolero (Bol) 4 Gusrani (Par) 1; Univer-sidad Catolica (Crie) & Mineros (Vori) O; Alianza Lima (Peru) 1 Cruzero (Br) O.

DUBAI: Dubei Desert Classic: Laading first-round scores (GB and tre unless stated). 66: D Hospital (Sp), C Mondomene BE: M Jernes, B Langer (Ser), P Hammgton, E Dency, 67: J Van de Velde (Fi) 68: F Tamaud (Fr), K Enkeson (Swe), H Albang (Swe), R Wills (Aus), Other scores 69: Myoconan, P Baicor, R Chapman, D Géford, J M Otezitol (Sp), 70: C Rocca (tg, 71: C C Tornor Jr, G Norman (Aus), 72: B Lane, 73: A Celtart, 74: S Ballesteros (Sp), D Smyth 76: R Ratienty.

ight.

SYDNEY: Australia women's masters: Leading first-round scores (Aus unless steader) 68: Charlotta Screnstam (Seeden), G Graham (Car): G Figg-Curter (US). 67: K Maugus D Trigue (Fr). 98: L Bernvenun (Br). W Doolant K Wess (US). A Munt. L Davies (CB). Other scores: 69: K Webb. 71: E Dathfool (See). 72: J Moriey (CB), H Dobson (GB). C Nisman (See). S Maymor (CB). S Gustabon (See). 72: L Hackney (CB), M Horth (See). C Pierce (CB). 74: K Marshal (GB). G Nisman (CB). 75: S Cool (B). C Hi Koch (See). D Raid (GB). 76: K Marshal (GB). D Bernard (GB). C Hall (GB). 77: S Dalongevila (Fr). T Fischer

RUGBY UNION

Nationalde Laurue Transmere v Stoke (7 45) Third division Colchester v Scarborough (7.45) ... Doncaster v Wigan Red's Scotlan Langue

FAI HAPP LATIER NATIONAL LEAGUE PATHOR UNITED STATES AND THE STATES OF THE S Editoria. SCHOOLS MATCHES: FA Preso League under-19 Trophy: Quarter-fin Greater Manchester v Humberside (af E Yue, 7 (1)

England v France (at Welford Road, 8 0) ... Scotland v Instant (at Myreside, Edinburgh, 40) ... Under-21 International matches England v France (at Welford Road, 6.0) Scotland v liefand (at Myreside, Edinburgh, 2.30)

STUDENT INTERNATIONAL: England v France (Carabndge, 7 th CLUB MATCHES: Gate v Select (7 15); Hentick v Kelso (7.15); Peebles v Melticae (8 0), Musselburgh v Boroughtmar (7.0). OTHER SPORT BASKETBALL: Budweiser League: Worthing v Choster (8 0) BOWLS: Women's English national indoor

AND THE PROPERTY OF THE PROPER Catherine's III. Outstanding meath from first day: Girton III bpd CCAT II. Today's starting order: Clare III Queens' III. Sidney's starting order: Clare III Queens' III. Sidney Sussex III. Claim III. Daywin, 6 King's II. Trinity Hail III. Magglein-III. Sidney Sussex III. Girton III. Pembroles III. Onisis's III. CCAT II. "Addenbrook's, 8 Editound's, Jesus IV. Calus III. Fifth division: Churchill IV bpd Wolfson II. Isst and 3rd Trinity II bpd Robinson III. Downing IV bpd Sidney Sussex IV. Queens' IV bpd LMSC V, 1st & 3rd Trinity V bpd Flatenhouse III. 1st & 3rd Trinity V Bpd Flatenhouse III. Isst & 3rd Trinity VI. Schwy Sussex IV. Selvey III. Downing IV. Sidney Sussex IV. Selvey III. Downing IV. Sidney Sussex IV. Selvey III. Queens' IV. LMSC V, 1st & 3rd Trinity VIII. College III. III. Add Trinity VIII. College III. III. Sidney Sussex IV. Selvey III. College III. III. Sidney III. Sid

Pesencuse at Dawert II, 1st & 3rd Trimly VII, CCAT BL
WOMERY Flext division: St Catherine's bod Newham, Permitorie bod Clare, Catus bod Sidney Sussex, 1st & 3rd Trimly bod Schwyn. Todas/s starting order: Emznanus, Trinly Hell, Clauser, MLBC, New Hell, Jesus, Churchill, St Cetherine's, Newham, Christ's, Gifton, Pembroise, Clare, Catus, Sidney Sussex, Downing, 1st & 3rd Trimly. Second division: 1st & 3rd Trimly. Hell II, Today's starting order: 1st Notice, 1st & 3rd Trimly Hell II, New Hell II, St Catherines II. Third division: Selvyn II bpd Hughes Hell, Cat II bpd Downing II, Robinson II bpd Magdelen II, Texellian III bpd Hughes Hell, Catherin, Girton II, 1st & 3rd Trimly II, Hughes Hell, Dawer, Girton II, 1st & 3rd Trimly II, Hughes Hell, Dawer, Girton II, 1st & 3rd Trimly II, Hughes Hell, Dawer, Girton II, 1st & 3rd Trimly II, Hughes Hell, Dawer, Girton II, 1st & 3rd Trimly II, Hughes Hell, Dawer, Girton II, 1st & 3rd Trimly II, Hughes Hell, Dawer, Girton II, 1st & 3rd Trimly II, Hughes Hell, Dawer, Girton II, 1st & 3rd Trimly II, Hughes Hell, Dawer, Girton II, 1st & 3rd Trimly II, Hughes Hell, Dawer, Girton II, 1st & 3rd Trimly II, Hughes Hell, Dawer, Girton II, 1st & 3rd Trimly II, Hughes Hell, Dawer, Girton II, 1st & 3rd Trimly II, Hughes Hell, Dawer, Girton II, 1st & 3rd Trimly II, Hughes Hell, Dawer, Girton II, 1st & 3rd Trimly II, Hughes Hell, Dawer, Girton II, 1st & 3rd Trimly II, 1st & 3rd Trimly III & 3rd Art & 3rd Trimly III & 3rd Art & 3rd Trimly III

TENNIS

RUGBY UMON

WELSH LEAGUE Time chebrar Lineal 48 Cardin 26.
TOUR MATCHE St Blackheath 19 Army 39; Cambridge University 37 Penguins 36.
ICE COUNTY CHARTONSHIP LINEST-21; Middlends final: Warwickshipe 6 Notinghamshire, Lincoinshipe and Derbyshire 10

Conditions Runs to ista Off/p resort 0 40 good varied closed snow (ligis pistes improving; Stubal Glacier superb) 40 150 good powder good snow with poor visibility; great powder snow) 30 40 good varied icy snow (Upper slopes very good with new snow) . 115 280 good powder good sun (Perfect snow conditions; availanche danger off-piste) 165 185 good powder good fine (Excellent skiing; planty of powder everywhere) Avonaz Livigno 105 205 good powder feir eno Excellent powder to be found; some icy spots low down Geilo 65 70 good varied tair fin (Some hard/ley patches but mostly very good) 40 190 powder powder good snow 2 27/2 (All pistes greatly improved with new snow) 2 27/2 50 230 good powder good sun 4 27/2 (Febulous powder skiing with new snow) Source: Ski Club of Great Britain. L - lower slopes; U - upper; art - artificial.

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CRICKET

Cronje gets ready to do battle in the ultimate test

SOUTH Africa and Australia begin a three-match series in Johannesburg today that, inevitably, will be seen by some as a decider for the unofficial world championship of Test

Under a system for calculating such an unofficial championship — devised by Matthew Engel, the editor of Wisden, and the table for which is characteristics. which is given below - Australia and South Africa hold first and second places respectively. The last time the countries met in South Africa, three years ago, the series was drawn, so, if South Africa win this time, they would move to within two points of Australia.

"We obviously recognise Australia as the best Testplaying nation in the world after they beat West Indies home and away." Hansie Cronje, the South Africa cantain, said yesterday. "If we beat them in the series, we'll be right up there with the best in the world; but calling ourselves world champions would be a little naive when you consider we have yet to play Pakistan or West Indies in a full Test series."

Mark Taylor, the Australia captain, declined - as he has consistently done - to talk of world championships. "It is another series for us and we want to win it," he said,

Australia return to the Wanderers with some trepidation

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South Airca 12	. 17	+
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Lloyd planning to be better prepared

BY OUR SPORTS STAFF

DAVID LLOYD, coach to the already mapped out his plans for the tour of the West Indies next winter. They include a two-week stay in Antigua for preparation purposes and time set aside for families later in the tour.

Lloyd believes that there are lessons to be learnt from the campaigns in Zimbabwe and New Zealand this winter from which wives, children and girlfriends were excluded both in terms of preparation and itinerary. The England team begins its penultimate match of the tour later today - the fourth oneday international in Auckland. England lead the fivematch series 2-0, with one

Lloyd has arranged a pre-Christmas trip to Sharjah, for a one-day tournament also involving West Indies, Pakistan and India, in an effort to get his players ready for the Caribbean. But he feels that more practice and fitness West Indies before the match

programme beings.
"When we arrived in Zimbabwe we were fit but they caught us cold by picking damo near a Test side in the first game. I don't want to be caught out like that again,'

England leave for the West Indies soon after the turn of the year and Lloyd is planning to have a couple of 100 overs a side warm-up games in the first fortnight. The tour programme includes five Tests and five one-day inter-nationals, which will be played after the Test series has been completed.

Lloyd said he was greatly encouraged by the competi-tive environment within the England set-up. "We now have a strong nucleus of players — especially when you look at what we have achieved this winter," he said.

The under-19s went to Pakistan and won, the A team went to Australia and won

after their previous experience in 1994, when they were beaten by 197 runs and found themselves based by a highly vocal crowd. They will say things on the boundary edge about you that will bit a little bit close to home," Taylor said yesterday. They are very personal and nasty." Taylor feels that the crowd's

behaviour contributed to Australia's defeat. It also played its part in two Australians, Merv Hughes and Shane Warne, being penalised by the International Cricket Council for verbal spats with the opposition. Hughes also reacted over-aggressively towards the crowd at one point. The Australians are guarding against a repetition this time.
Taylor feels Australia are

the better prepared for what is likely to be a hard and closely lought series, having recently played five Test matches against West Indies. South Africa completed a series win over India last month.

Taylor's own form with the bat is one of his side's main worries, most of the other batsmen having made runs in the warm-up games. Another will be the bowling of Paul Adams, the South Africa leftarm wrist spinner. "We've spent a lot of time watching Adams on video and the boys are looking forward to playing against him." Geoff Marsh, the Australia coach, said. We've formulated a few ideas on how to play him."

South Africa's own batting appeared fragile against India and they will miss the all-round skills of McMillan, who is recovering from injury. The pitch is expected to be less fast than usual for the Wanderers and will offer only slow turn for the spinners. South African Breweries

has put up Rdl80,000 [about £24,000] in prize-money, but Rd50,000 will be withheld if the series is drawn as an incentive to positive play. The second Test is in Port Elizabeth from March 14 to 18 and the third in Centurion from March 21 to 25.

SOUTH AFRICA (probable): W J Cronje (captein), G Kitsten, A C Hudson, J H Kellis, D J Culinan, J N Rhodes, S M Poliock, D J Richardson, L Klusener, A A Donald, P R



Ratia Seizinger, of Germany, speeds her way to the sixth fastest time during practice yesterday for the women's World Cup downhill race in Hakuba, Japan, today

SNOOKER

Past form points to Hendry

By PHIL YATES

STEPHEN HENDRY will be an overwhelming favourite to win his fifteenth consecutive match in world-ranking events, and his 23rd in 24 outings, when he meets James Wattana, of Thailand, here in Malta today for a semi-final place in the European Open.

His career record against Wattana - the score is 14-3 in the world champion's favour - is a strong indication that the form book will prove reliable. Wattana is also handicapped by having to become acquainted with a new

During a practice session only two days before travelling to the tournament. Wattana irreparably damaged his old cue while larking around. He has borrowed a replacement from a friend but,

fortable with it, despite recording hard-fought wins over Hendry's fellow Scots, Euan Henderson and Chris Small, in the previous rounds.

During his 5-3 victory over Jon Birch, Hendry compiled a break of 124. It meant that he has run up at least 30 centuries in competition in each of the past eight seasons. The £9,050 that he is guaranteed to collect here carries his total prize-money to more than £300,000 for the ninth successive campaign.

In yesterday's first quarter-final, Ken Doherty recovered from a 3-1 interval deficit against Peter Ebdon to establish a 4-3 lead and move within one frame of a semifinal against Stephen Lee or John Higgins, the world No 2.

Doherty, who had lost his eight most recent encounters with Ebdon, began his recov-ery with a break of 45 in the fifth frame before drawing level at 3-3 with a green-to-black clearance that included a fearless pink, using the rest, down the side cushion.

Doherty, by now clearly full of confidence, also picked up the seventh frame with a break of 80 as Ebdon lost his **EQUESTRIANISM**

Confidence high as riders head for Paris

BY JENNY MACARTHUR

JOHN WHITAKER, who led an unprecedented clean sweep by British riders at the Bologna World Cup qualifier last weekend, will attempt a second successive victory when he competes in the Paris qualifier this weekend. Paris is the venue for the thirteenth of 15 qualifiers for the Volvo Showjumping World Cup fi-nal, which takes place in Sweden from April 30 to May 4. The top 19 riders from the Western European League

qualify.

Two weeks ago, Michael
Whitaker, who was third in the London qualifier at Olympia in December, was the only Briton in the top 19. However, Bologna - where the Whit-akers. Geoff Billington and Robert Smith filled the top four places - has altered the picture. Michael and John Whitaker are second and ninth in the league, respectively. Smith is joint fifteenth and Billington joint eigh-teenth. All four compete this weekend, together with Nick Skelton, who is in 25th place.

Although John Whitaker has never failed to qualify for the final since the World Cup started in 1979, his record had looked under threat this season after disappointing outson after disappointing out-ings in Geneva, London and Bordeaux. He was lying 32nd before Bologna. "I definitely needed more points," Whitaker said.

Grannusch, the 18-year-old gelding who brought him the timely victory, is resting this weekend. In his place, Whitaker will bring out his Berlin winner, Welham.

His younger brother, Michael, will rely on Ashley, an outstanding nine-year-old. Winner of the 1995 Foxbunter Championship, Ashley has performed admirably this

Showtime, his Olympic horse, this weekend and, with Smith having the choice of his Olympia World Cup winner. Tees Hanauer, or the eightyear-old Big Time, on which he was fourth in Bologna, and Billington riding It's Otto, his Olympic horse, hopes of another British victory are

IN BRIEF

Durham's batting bolstered by Speight

DURHAM completed their third close-season signing by acquiring Martin Speight from Sussex on a three-year contract yesterday. Speight follows two other batsmen -Nick Speak, of Lancashire, and Jon Lewis, of Essex — to a county that scored only four championship centuries last

Nottinghamshire were also interested in Speight but he was anxious to resume fulltime wicketkeeping, which Durham want him to do. Speight is the fifth player to leave Sussex in seven months.

Belt chance

Boxing: Ryan Rhodes, the British light middleweight champion from Sheffield, will after all get his chance to become the quickest to win a Lonsdale Belt outright. Rhodes will try to win the British title for the third time against Del Bryan, of Notting-ham, at Reading on March 14.

New challenge

Swimming: Nick Gillingham is to launch a new legal challenge to the successful Russian appeal against the disqualification of Andrei Korneev from third place in the 200 metres breaststroke at the Olympic Games in Atlanta last year. Fresh evidence has emerged this week that Bromantan, the drug for which Korneev tested positive. is performance-enhancing.

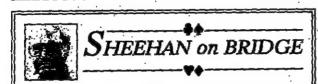
Downing ahead

Rowing: Downing, the leaders of men's division one, had a grandstand view as the next six boats bumped out in the Cambridge University Lent races. Christ's were the last to go when caught by 1st and 3rd Trinity ten strokes after the railway bridge.

No police action

Football: Police have decided not to take any action after the brawi between Chesterfield and Plymouth Argyle players on Saturday in which four players were sent off by Richard Poulain. The FA is awaiting the referee's report before deciding whether, to take any action.

THE TIMES

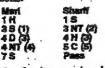


BY ROBERT SHEEHAN BRIDGE CORRESPONDENT

To bid a Grand Slam which has little to spare in the way of high cards usually requires some special tools. The hand below occurred in the 1997 Macallan International Pairs. It was bid to Seven Spades at five of the eight tables, and came home when the hearts

*AKQ\$ N ... #1875 8 A753 +A107 **\$J8**

Some of auctions:



(i) Not forcing, and valuing the hand conservatively. Certainly there was no guarantee that East-West could make Four Spades if East had an

(2) An inquiry bid - many players have the agreement that, if they have found an eight-card major fit, they use 3 NT to ask for further information rather than proposing it as a place to play. (3) Cue-bids (4) Blackwood (5)

0 or 3 aces - clearly three after East's 3NT and Four Heart The other successful tions all started with West

a. A toasted ham sandwich

c. Type of proportional voting

b. A pebble for skimming

TOSTON

c. A silver coin

SELECTRIC

a. A typewriter

splintering" on the second

round. This was the Norwe gian sequence:

(I) Valuing the hand as being worth a rise to Four Spades.

Four Diamonds guaranteed four-card spade support and showed a singleton diamond. (2), (3) Five-ace Blackwood, and a reply showing two of the five "aces" (the king of spades counting as an ace), and the queen of trumps.

(4) East cannot possibly tell whether the playing strength-is there for Seven Spades. But, by bidding 5 NT, which asks for specific kings, he confirms that his side has all the aces. (5) Knowing he is facing a hand with three aces he can count a probable ten tricks in spades and hearts, two minorsuit aces, and a ruff some

where for the thirteenth trick. Forrester and Robson bid identically up to 5 NT. Then Forrester bid Six Hearts and, then Robson bid Six Spades in tempo, went on to Seven Spades. If Forrester thought the hand worth Seven Spades over 5NT, he would have done better to bid it immediately - that way he would have avoided the ethical problems that might have occurred had Robson bid Six Spades

☐ Robert Sheehan writes on bridge Monday to Friday in Sport and in the section on Saturday.

WORD-WATCHING

TENORINO

SONGKOK

b. A love song

c A skull-cap

a. A miniature eclair b. A high tenor

a. Sweet noodle stew

c. A soft wind from the sea

By Philip Howard

CHESS CORRESPONDENT

Oxford v Cambridge The annual Varsity match

takes place romorrow afternoon at the RAC Club in Pall Mall. The first match was held at the City of London Chess Club in 1873 with more than 400 spectators and grandmasters Zukertort and Blackburne analysing the games for the public. Given the status of Zukertort and Blackburne at that time, that is rather as if Anand and Kramnik turned up to comment now.

The standard of play in 1873 was low and Howard Staunton thought the combatants "as a rule, very ignorant of chess theory". Nevertheless, the Cambridge team, according to the standard work Cambridge Chess by R. G. Eales of the University of Kent

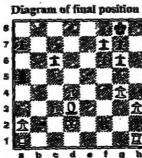
at Canterbury, contained some interesting characters. Between 1873 and 1914 two presidents of the Cambridge club were J. N. Keynes, father of the economist, and Alaistair Crowley, the noted Satanist. There was only one president with claims to be a strong player, namely H. E. Atkins, who won the British champ-ionship nine times. Between 1891 and 1894, Atkins was a scholar at Peterhouse, the college which had outlawed chess almost 600 years earlier. The following game is one of

the most spectacular played the history of the match. White: M. J. Corden (Oxford)

Black: A. H. Williams (Cambridge) Varsity match, 1970

Alekhine's Defence

d5 d4 dxc3 exi6 Bd6 0-0 Re84 e5 exi6 bxc3 N/3 64 Bd3 Be3 0-0 123 64 Nd7 Bc7 Bg6 b6 Ndb6 13 c5 14 g4 15 Nh4 16 cnb6 17 Neg6 18 Kg2 19 Rh1 20 tm3 21 Kl1 22 Ce1 23 Ce2 24 Of2 25 Oxe3 26 Kw3 27 Kd2 Rive3 Og3+ Nd5 Nove3+ Qd6 Re6 Roe3+

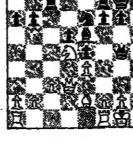


Monday to Friday in Sport and in the Weekend section on Saturday.

WINNING MOVE

By Raymond Keene

White to play. This position is



from the game King — Frias, Watson, Farley and Williams, London 1990, We are only just out of the opening but White aiready has a way to win immediately. Can you see it?



THE ENGLISH PATENT. EXCLUSIVE VISITING HOTIRS.

Starting in Monday's 10p Times, a chance to see 12 times Oscar nominated film, The English Patient, a week before its official release, for free.

And get a tree CD camples of The Briefish Paners' soundtrack.

CHANGING TIMES

مِكذا من رلاميل

Hooked on first taste of southern comfort

ither they are employing midgets as cameramen on Sky Sports, or someone is trying to Sports, or someone is trying to tell us that football is a kiddies' game. Before Arsenal v Wimbledon at Highbury last weekend, the camera wandered around outside the ground, positioned rather confusingly at knee-height, and kept bumping into small boys in MERSON shirts. who obligingly showed off their face paint, or held up their programmes,

are suggesting to us that football matches are roughly the same experience as a trip to the panto. Crowd members singled out by cameras are almost always harmless women or

harmless children; and if the women are caught mouthing obscenities (as they often are), the picture promptly switches somewhere else. A cover-up, I call it. When a yob-scuffle breaks out, as it did at Filhert Street the other week, a decision is made by the BBC not to show the incident, on the grounds that it gives the perpetrators "publicity". But it's all part of air-brushing the yobs out of the story, as if they don't exist.

So, whar's it like in the family enclosure of a football stadium? Well. I have to tell you, it's brilliant. A bit draughty, and a bit weird, but

UNLESS a possible legal challenge is successful, Cen-

tral Park, the home of Wigan

since 1902, looks set to become

a supermarket in a £12 million

deal with the Tesco chain.

Only when the doors open and

trolleys glide across the acres

where Billy Boston, Ellery Hanley and Martin Offiah

once flew, will people quite

After this season, Wigan are

looking to move to Bolton

Wanderers Football Club's

new ground, five miles away

at Horwich, on a temporary

lease. A longer-term objective

but the upheaval has infuriat-

ed shareholders. They recently

voted by a majority of seven to one for a multimillion-pound

redevelopment of Central

Park put forward by David Whelan, chairman of Wigan

Whelan was returning early

from a skiing holiday in

Austria last night, angry that

his popular proposal for the

town's rugby league and foot-

ball clubs to share Central

Park had been overlooked by

the three-man Wigan board. A

had reportedly been agreed by

Tesco, which is to seek outline

planning permission for its

Whelan's proposal to buy the ground for £4 million and

spend an additional £12.5 mil-

lion developing it, would leave

Wigan with only £700,000

working capital after clearing

debts. The Tesco plan provides

the club with more money for

reinvestment but, in leaving Central Park, how many of

Athletic Football Club.

believe it.

brilliant. Rather drained by the necessary bravado I've been showing in robust male football crowds recently, I made a policy decision last Saturday to take things easy, and slunk childless and relieved into the family enclosure at the Goldstone Ground for Brighton v Swansea City. And I instantly made a mental note never to sit anywhere else.
I think I fitted in quite well.

"Seagulis!" lisped an infant behind me, from time to time. It was damn It's a deliberate ploy, I think. They cute. "Seagulls!" I lisped, as well. The

chips, which

I coveted'

kids are chips, which I coveted. If anyone has an infant going spare on Saturday afternoons, get in touch. I may be The kids ate willing to hire one. Of course, it helped that the match was a

cracker, with a good

attendance of more than 6,000. Things are on the up at Brighton, and the home team won 3-2, a crucial result. As any fool knows, the Albion have recently been galvanised into action by the new manager (encouragingly named Steve Gritt) and are now just one point behind Doncaster Rovers, running fast to catch up with a departing train, having previously been dumped on the platform with a pile of luggage and given a hanky to

Everyone assumed it was all up for Brighton, especially when two points were deducted. But they were wrong.

RUGBY LEAGUE

Fighting in aisles

over Central Park

supermarket plan

By Christopher Irvine

their supporters might Wigan

In exercising apparent supe-

rior voting rights as majority

debenture shareholders, Jack

Robinson, the Wigan chair-

man, and Tom Rathbone,

another director, appear to

have sanctioned the super-

market deal. Earlier this

week, John Martin, the only

director to back Whelan's

proposal, resigned because, he

said, he could "no longer

stand by and watch the club

champions and Challenge

Curp-holders, are calling for

the Rugby Football League to

consider the introduction of a fixed penalty disciplinary system. "We understand that

the Australian Super League

is considering the same kind of operation," David Howes,

the St Helens chief executive,

said. "It is logical that the

same kind of package should be available to Super League clubs world-wide."

The drama of the past three

weeks, starting with the defeat

at St Helens in the Silk Cut

Challenge Cup, is fast becom-

ing a crisis. Valaiga Tuig-

amala returned to rugby union, at Newcastle, and the

highly popular Graeme West,

who was dismissed as coach,

painted a hapless picture of interference at board level.

er whether he can legally

challenge the board's decision.

"I believe the board are ready

Martin is seeking to discov-

slowly drain away".

leave behind?

LYNNE TRUSS



Kicking and Screaming

Seagulis! Rah-Rah! Seagulis! What a shock for Doncaster, who had settled into the last vacant seat with a sigh of relief - only to look out of the window and see the Albion outside, shouting "Wait for me!" and sprinting to catch up.

This life-or-death struggle at the tail-end of the league is easily as exciting as the contention for glory at the top. Not only is there more caracity for heroism from those whoare about to die, but - less laudably - the famous dictum by Gore Vidal applies more vividly: "It is not enough to succeed. Others must fail."

to ignore the will of the

think I am talking on behalf of

them and fans in saying that I

can't believe they want to see

the world's greatest rugby

league club playing in Bolton. It would be the start of a

Wigan are officially main-

taining that no deal has yet

been done, but Robinson

admitted that Tesco's offer

would be difficult to refuse.

The lease offered by Mr

Whelan offers us no way of

generating any revenue other than through the turnstiles

cent of that," he said, "If we

were to accept £4 million from

him for Central Park, when it

directors would be held legally

The Wigan Observer was

contacted yesterday by numer-

ous supporters who were an-

gered by the supermarket plan. Neil Barker, the newspa-

per's sports editor, said: People are up in arms. It now

seems that the shareholders

meeting at which the Whelan

proposal was carried was a

How will Tesco commemo-

rate great feats by Wigan through nine decades? A

plaque by the mange-tout, perhaps. Although less bloody

than another confrontation.

the proposed supermarket

and depot at Wigan's town

centre location is unlikely to be

built without a fight. The

Battle of Wigan Lane took

place there 300 years ago and

the area beyond the Kop is

known as Bloody Mountains.

nomadic existence.

shareholders," he said.

Brighton have good reason to stamp on the knuckies of everybody with less than 40 points in the third division, and gleeful cheers were heard on Saturday when news of Doncaster's defeat at Northamoton Town came through. For Brighton to survive, someone else must make the ultimate sacrifice. And, thanks a lot, we don't mind if you do.

مِكذا من رلامل

Of course, I had no idea a points table could hold so much fascination. until this season. During Euro 96, I remember complaining that the letters "F" and "A" at the

top of a table were not explained anywhere on the page — and all my wild stabs didn't help. Now, after every match I watch on telly, I try to video the briefly-flashed new table ("Too fast, too fast!") and then study it at leisure.

Frankly, the most dismaying development in recent weeks was the decision of Match of the Day, the weekly BBC magazine, to go monthly, thus leaving me empty-handed on Thursday mornings. This publication's "Trainspotting" section - all the latest results and tables, beautifully laid out — was something I could pore over with my mouth open for a worrying amount of time.

Back at the Goldstone, with the points totting up, the additional good paid full attention to the match, instead of merely using the occasion to denounce the chairman, as has become the famous custom. "Archer out! is still understandably, a regular cry, but, from the family enclosure anyway, it was the game that mattered. Two goals for Brigh-ton, then one for Swansea! Then another for Brighton! Then another for Swansea! It was damned exciting. At a previous Seaguils match

chants of "Archer out!" broke out just as the lads were racing towards the goal, when "Come on!" would have been a tad 'I'd be there more encouraging: But nowadays, perhaps, "Archer out!" is simply in the Softies" a given of British foot-ball. It goes without Enclosure'

saying Last week, the
Evening Argus had a
front-page picture of a Sherpa on Mount Everest, holding up a sign that said "Archer Out", and to be

honest, it came as no surprise. Meanwhile, it's good to know about the family seats. It's just a shame I haven't got a family, and (despite efforts) can't pass for an under-ten. In the grand post-Taylor scheme of things, I just wish clubs had considered the full range of football-fan requirements, and instituted a Softies' Enclosure or a Namby-Pamby Bench. Having no pride whatsoever, I'd be there like a

Tonight: the singing sixties

A live concert from the Festival Hall in London in which Sir Simon Rattle conducts the City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra.
Towards the Millennium is a theme originally put to the BBC by
Rattle and the less Millennium. The connects over the next three Rattle and the late Michael Vyner. The concerts, over the next three Rattle and the late Michael Vyner. The concerts, over the next three years and coming from Birmingham and Cardiff as well as London, years and coming from Birmingham and Cardiff as well as London, years and coming from Birmingham and Cardiff as well as London, years and coming from Birmingham and Cardiff as well as Conight is explore the music of the 20th century, decade by decade. Tonight is explore the number of the 1960s. The music is Henze's The Raft of the Medusa the turn of the 1960s. The music is Henze's The Raft of the Medusa the turn of the 1960s. The music is Henze's The Raft of the Medusa the turn of the 1960s. The music is Henze's The Raft of the Medusa the turn of the 1960s. The music is Henze's The Raft of the Medusa the turn of the 1960s. The music is Henze's The Raft of the Medusa the turn of the 1960s. The music is Henze's The Raft of the Medusa the turn of the 1960s. The music is Henze's The Raft of the Medusa the turn of the 1960s. The music is Henze's The Raft of the Medusa the turn of the 1960s. The music is Henze's The Raft of the Medusa the turn of the 1960s. The music is Henze's The Raft of the Medusa the turn of the 1960s. The music is Henze's The Raft of the Medusa the turn of the 1960s. The music is Henze's The Raft of the Medusa the turn of the 1960s.

Classic Evening Concert. Classic FM, 8.00pm.

RADIO 1

7.00em Mark Redolitie 9.00 Simon Mayo 12.00 Jo Whiley 2.00pm Nicky Campbell 4.00 Kwin Greening 5.15 Newsbest 7.00 Pets Tong: Essential Radio 1 Rap Show with Tim Westwood 3.00mm Charles Jorden

6.00mm Alex Lester 7.30 Wales Up To Viogen 9.30 Ken Bruce 11.30 Anne Robinson 1.30pm John Humphreys 3.00 Ed Stavent 5.05 Chris Sarte 7.30 Speaking Volumes with Sarah Kennedy 7.30 Fittley Night Is Music Night, Live from the Mode Vale Studios in West Landon, Robin Boyle introduces the BBC Contest Orchestra under Robin Staplaton 9.30 Listen to the Band 10.00 Staplaton 9.30 Listen to the Band 10.00

RADIO 5 LIVE

5.00em Moming Reports 6.00 The Breaklast Programme 9.00 The Maga-zine 12.00 Midday with Meir 2.00pm Ruscoe on Five 4.00 Nationwide 7.00 News Baha 7.36 Paddinson on Spori 8.30 Fiday Sport with Robin Balley. Criciast News Irom the foudh one day international between New Zesland and England, Footbalk Transvere Rowers v Stoke City in Division One; Bosing: a Seare Cay IT Division on, books, so look at Super Ray Leonard's comeback at the age of forty 10,00 Paper Talk with Brian Alexander and Dennit Seveli 11,00 News Edra with David McNell 12,00 After Hours 2,00em Up All Night

TALK RADIO

12.00 Lorrains Kelly 2.00pm Tommy Boyd 4.00 Drivetims, with Peter Deeley

WORLD SERVICE

All times in GMT. News on the hour. 5.30ean Europe Today 6.30 Europe Today 7.15 Off the Shalf 7.30 The Missionaries 8.10 Words of Fath 8.15 Music Review 8.45 Soundbyle 8.05 Business 9.15 Focus on Fatih 9.45 Sport 10.30 BSC English 10.45 Off the Shalf 11.30 Maridian Books 12.95pm Business 12.15 Britain Today 12.30 Science in Action 2.05 Outlook 2.30 Music Review 4.15 World Today 4.30 BSC English 4.45 Britain Today 4.30 BSC English 4.45 Britain Today 4.30 BSC English 4.45 Britain Today 5.30 Business 5.45 Sport 6.30 Focus on Fath 7.01 Outlook 7.25 Words of Fath 7.30 Multitrack 9.05 World Business Report 9.15 Britain Today 9.30 People 7.30 Multitrack 9.05 Word Business Report 9.15 Britain Today 9.30 People and Politics 10.30 The New Europe 10.45 Sports Roundup 11.10 Spotigits 11.15 Insider's Guide 11.25 Book Choice 11.30 Multitrack 12.30am Seven Days 12.45 Britain Today 1.30 Cuticok 1.55 Words of Path 2.30 Science In Action 3.15 Sports Roundup 3.30 Mendian Live 4.30 Jazz Now and Then 4.45 Seven Days

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12.50am File

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SKY NEWS

SKY MOVIES

THE MOVIE CHAMNEL

About Whot Balon Corner and the core (1950)

About 1950 About 1950

CLASSIC FM

4.00em Mark Griffiths 6.00 Miles Reed 4.00em Merk Griffiths 6.00 Miles Fleed 9.00 Henry Kelly 12.00 Susanneh Simons 2.00pm Lunchtime Concerto. Brahms (Violin Concerto at D major, Op 77) 9.00 Jamile Crick 7.00 Classic Navesnight 7.30 Sonata Mozart (Sonata in D major for 2 Pienos, K448) 6.00 Evening Concert. See Choice. Possint (La Ceneratoles) Seitten (Matrides Musicales) Ressint (Stabat Mater); Brittan (Soirides Musicales) 10.00 Milcheel Marcoin 1 (Marcoin Milcheel)

VIRGIN RADIO

8.00mm Russ 'n' Jono 10.00 Grehem Dene 1.00pm Jeremy Clark 4.00 Nicky Home 7.00 Paul: Coyle (FMI) / Robin Banks (AM) 10.00 Alan Freemen 12.00 Mark Format 2.00mm Howard Pearco

6.00am Ori Altr, with Andrew McGregor, Sibelius (Plano Quartet); Toballovaley (Plano Concerno No 3 in E Path; Mczart (Divertimento in F. Mozert (Divertimento 11 K138); Debussy (Violin

(Mass in C)

9.00 Morning Collection, with Peter Hobday, Menotil. (Overture Arnelle al Bislio); Mazzart (Flute Concerto No 1 in G, K313); Brahms (String Ouintet No 2 in G; Op 111)

10.00 Massical Encounters, with

D Musical Encounters, with Piers Burton-Page. Vivaldi (Carstata Nulla in Mundo Pax. Sinceta, RV630); Bartok (Violin Sonata No 2); Bratmus (Varietions on a Therne by Pagarini, Op 35); Mostan (Sinfonletta); Schulbert (Der Musersohn); John Gerdiner (Symphony No 1)

Symphony No 1)

12.00 Composer of the West:
Koechlin

1.00pn News; Chamber Music
from Menchester.

from Manchester.
Introduced by Rodney
Stationd. Schubert (Adagio
and Rondo Concertante in F.
D487); Mendelssohn (Plano
Cuartet in B minor, Op 3)
Remestu. A recital of
Remestu's Nouvelles Suites
de Pieces de Clavecin
Music Restorad. Anthony
Ronder Introduces the first of be resoned a claveum illusic Restored. Anthony Rooley introduces the first of four-concerts from the Royal Academy of Music, London. Includes a performance of Ordo Vinutum, the seriest methods on musical decrease from methods on musical decrease from the control of the control of the methods on musical decrease from the control of the control of the methods on musical decrease from the control of the control of the methods on the control of the methods on the control of the methods of the control of methods of the methods of the methods of methods

order valuating musical drama from the 12th century (r) billiating the Archave. A boggamme featuring the conductor Jesche Horenstein-performing the music of

Matiler and Busoni with the BBC Northern Symphony Orchestra (2/2) Music Machine. Charles Music Machine. Charle Haziewood explores the

caychological effects of Muzek

5.15 in Turne, with Natalie Wheen, includes Chopin (FaritasyImpromptu in C sharp minor, Op 68); Tchalkovsky (Faritasy Overture homeo and Juliet);
Bridge (Phantasy in F sharp minor)

minor) Towards the Milleadum See Choice. Live from the Festival Hall; London. Juliane Banse, soprano, Deborah Miles-Johnson, mszzo, Devid Cantacles); Henze (The Reft of Medusa; part 1) 8,25 The Raft of Medusa. Why did the sinking of the French flagship Medusa during the Napoleonic Wars prove such an inspiration to Henze and the painter Gericault? 8,45 Concert, part 2. Henze (The Reft of Medusa, part 2) 1 Noles, with Stephen Connor (5/5)

10.00 Hear and Now. Andrew 10.00 Hear and Now. Andrew
Sparing takes to Philip Clark
and Joseph Philipbe about
composing for the modern
Orchestra. Includes Philip
Clark (City Mosaic); Michael
Finnissy (The Golden Sleep);
Simon Beirbridge
(Herbettag); Andrew Glover
(Fractured Vistas); Caroline
Wilkins (Loquele)
12.00 Composer of the Weelc
Pfitzner (r)
1.00 Through the Night, with
Donald Macleod

By Our Sports Staff anticipation when receiving. TIM HENMAN had the tawell but I was not surprised

bles turned on him by Petr Korda, whom he beat in the Australian Open, when the Great Britain No I was defeated 6-4, 6-4 by the Czech lefthander, in the second round of the Italian Indoor Championships in Milan yesterday.

Korda, who four years ago was ranked No 5 in the world. returned Henman's first service superbly throughout the match and invariably came out the winner an baseline rallies. What made Henman's defeat more frustrating, how-ever, was the fact that he hit far more first services into court than his rival and also struck ten aces to Korda's six. The wily Czech, now ranked No 29, showed outstanding

over Mark Philippoussis, of Australia. The writing was on the wall after Philippoussis lost six games in succession in the second and third sets

reached the semi-finals of the contest, said. In the first set of the match I did not serve so

by this victory. "Mark is a very good player but he was only playing his third match of the season," the

Czech-born German said. Henman may lose several ranking places in the next twoweeks as a result of his defeat. yesterday and the fact that he is not playing in the Rotterdam tournament next week The 22-year-old Briton has decided to take next week off, even though his absence means that he will lose a lot of points, as he successfully

Dutch tournament last year. Yesterday, he was under pressure from the fifth game, where he saved two break points with service winners to hang on to his delivery and lead 3-2, but that was the last time he led in the match. Korda had four more break

points in the seventh game and eventually broke through to go to 4-3 after Henman served his first double fault of the match. That one break was enough to give Korda the first set in 34 minutes and, with his confidence high, the Czech player continued to overshadow Henman.

Henman saved another break point in the third game of the second set but dropped his service for the second time in the contest to go 2-3 down. That one break again proved sufficient, though there was still some drama to come in

Trailing 3-5, Henman saved match point with his tenth ace and hung on to his service after six deuces. Then he had his first break point of the match in the subsequent game at 30-40, only for Korda to take the next three points for

5.55em Shipping (LW) 6.00

News 6.10 Farming Today
6.25 Prayer for the Day 6.30

Today, includes Thought for
the Day 8.40 Yesterday in
Parismont Partianter
9,00 News 9,05 Desert Island
Discs. Another chance to
hear the selections of the chaf
Nico Ladenis (r)
9,45 Feedback, with Chris

9.45 Feedback, with Cittle Dunkley
10.00 News; Messages to Myself (FM). Amanda Redman reads the personal diary of Selly Sedgman (2/5)
10.00 An Act of Worship (LW) 10,15 On This Day (LW) 10.20 Women's Hour, with Push

10.30 Woman's stour, wan hum Wethert 11.30 The Mahurai History Programme. Presented by Joans Pinnock 12.00 News; You and Yours, with Mark Whitlaker 12.25pm Food Programme, with Panek Concer 12.5% Weather

Derek Cooper 12.55 Weather 1.00 The World at One, with Nick Clarke 1.40 The Archers (r) 1.55 Shipping Forecast 2.00 Classic Seriel: The Classic,

by A.J. Cronin. Starring James Macpherson and Kelly Hunter (4/4) (r) 3.00 News; The Afternoon Shire, with Leurie Taylor and guests 4.00 News 4.05 Keleidoscope Tim Marlow views a new schiblion of the work of the

German photographer August Sender, Plus, he reviews a production, in Stratford, of Tennessee Williams's play, Camino Reel

4.45 Short Story: Discovery, by Graham Chen. Reed by David Tse 5.00 PM 5.50 Shipping Forecast 5.55 Weather
6.00 Six O'Clock News
6.30 Going Places. David Stafford reveals more ideas for things to do this weekend
7.00 News 7.05 The Archers
7.20 Pick of the Week. Frank
Dalanev presents his

Delaney presents his selection of extracts from BBC radio over the pest BBC radio over the post seven days a.os Any Questions? Jonathan Dimbleby chairs the topical debate from Hebburn, Tyne and Wear. With Professor Lisa Jerdine, Dr Alan Sked and MPs Alistair Burt and George Robertson.

Robertson

8.50 Law in Action, with Marcel
Berlins, Salile Davies explores ways of compensating the victims of doctors' and health

10.00 The World Tonight, with

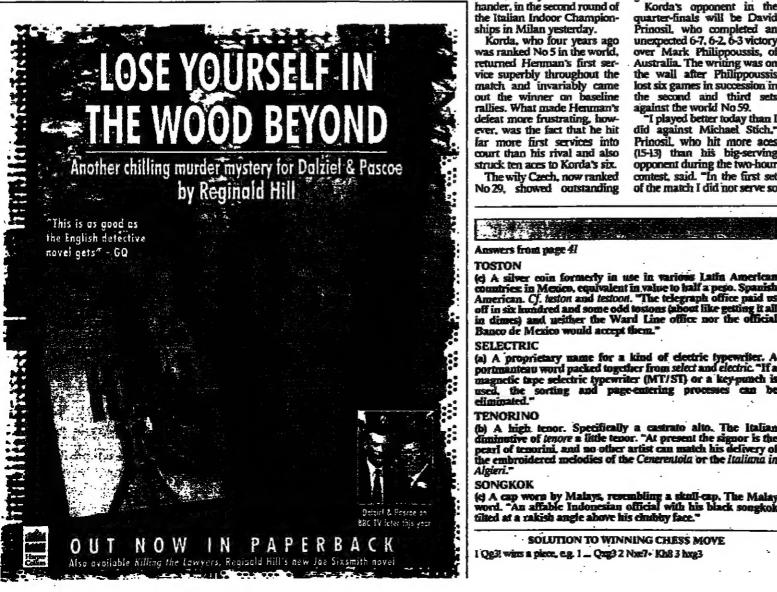
Roger Hearing 10.45 Book at Bedtime: The

Great Relitives Bazzar, by
Paul Theroux. Read by
William Hurt (5/10) (r)

11.00 Week Ending. A look at the
week's events with Sally
Grace and the comedy revue 11.25 Tea Junction, Palrick

Hannen and his guests take a sceptical look at the week's 12.00 News 12.30 The Late Book: 12.00 News 12.30 The Late Book: Another Saturday Night, by Nik Cohn (27) 12.48 Shipping Forecast 1.00 As World Service

FREQUENCY GLIDE. RADIO 1. FM 97.8-99.8. RADIO 2. FM 88.0-90.2. RADIO 3. FM 90.2-92.4. RADIO 4. FM 92.4-94.6: LW 198. MW 720. RADIO 5 LIVE. MW 683, 909. WORLD SERVICE. MW 198. MW 198 (12.45-5.55cm). CLASSIC FM. FM 100-102. VIRGIN RADIO. FM 105.8; MW 1197, 1215. TALK RADIO. MW 1053, 1089. Television and radio listings. complied by Peter Deer, lan Hughes, Rosemary Smith, Susan Thomson, Jane Gregory and John McNamara.





Henman plays a backhand return during his second-round defeat by Korda in Milan

Wily Czech fells Henman

however, and though his ser-vice was not as quick as the Briton's, he dropped only 14 points in his ten service

Korda's opponent in the quarter-finals will be David Prinosil, who completed an unexpected 6-7, 6-2, 6-3 victory

against the world No 59. I played better today than I did against Michael Stich." Prinosil, who hit more aces (15-13) than his big-serving opponent during the two-hour

countries in Mexico, equivalent in various Latin American countries in Mexico, equivalent in value to half a pego. Spanish American. Cf. teston and testoon. The telegraph office paid us off in six hundred and some odd tostons (about like getting it all in dimes) and neither the Ward Line office nor the official Banco dr Mexico would accept them." (c) A silver coin formerly in use in various Latin American SELECTRIC

(a) A proprietary name for a kind of electric typewriter. A portmanteau word packed together from select and electric. "If a magnetic tape selectric typewriter (MT/ST) or a key-punch is used, the sorting and page-entering processes can be eliminated." TENORINO

(b) A high tenor. Specifically a castrato alto. The Italian diminutive of tenore a little tenore in the little tenore in the little tenore. diminutive of tenore a little tenor. "At present the signor is the pearl of tenorini, and no other artist can match his delivery of the embroidered melodies of the Cenerentola or the Italiana in SONGKOK

SOLUTION TO WINNING CHESS MOVE

tilted at a rakish angle above his chubby face."

Auntie takes a trip — for medicinal reasons

ey man, it's Horizon (BBCZ). This being tele-vision and our subject being psychedelic drugs, the only real question was how long it would be before Timothy Leary popped up and advised us to "turn on, tune in and drop out". I made it Il minutes and ... but like, who's counting? That specially impreg-nated page of the "scratch and trip" edition of Radio Times was beginning to take effect.
The makers of last night's docu-

mentary had clearly stumbled through the doors of perception some time ago. "Let's make a film about psychedelic drugs," said one with an excited groan. Great idea. man," grouned another, "we could make the whole thing look like one giant psychedelic experience." They did — and after 50 minutes of blurred photography, slow motion and strange, stretchy special effects, I was groaning too. It was like arriving late at a party in full

you're driving.

But despite the distraction of the visual presentation, there was no obscuring the interest of the main subject. After a 30-year moratori-um, psychedelic drugs such as LSD are once again being used in serious scientific research. And yes, as Bill Eagles's film showed, that sentence can be interpreted two ways. While some scientists are painstakingly studying the effects that "psychedelics" (in these circles it's cool to drop the word drugs after a while) have on the brain, others are simply taking them and using their allegedly raised levels of consciousness to become computer billionaires or

win Nobel prizes. "Yeah, I was right down there with the molecules when I discovered it," said Kary Mullis, a biochemist for whom the phrase "so laid-back he was horizontal" might have been invented. He

doubt it for a minute.

Eagles, however, had not forgotten the moral high ground alto gether. A more conventional-locking scientist duly popped up to remind us of the price that Leary and indeed the scientific community — had paid for "turning research into a party". Venture too far down that path, we were warned, and you reach madness, murder and Charles Manson. But not if you do it properly, responded those at the blurred edge of modern psychedelics research. Much of this new research has

concentrated on psychedelics derived from plants and consumed for centuries by native people of South America and Africa. These. we learnt, include ayahuasca, a hallucinogenic tea which is currently doing great things for an understandably esstatic and undoubtedly charismanic Christian cult in Brazil: and ibogaine, which

REVIEW



lot more fun.

sounds like something you rub into aching joints but is actually a

Bond

But for me the real revelation (apart from how tedious 1960s guitar music becomes when you're not in the mood) was what psychedelics are being used for -and indeed were used for before they were outlawed in the late 1960s. In Miami, ibogaine is being used to treat cocaine addiction.

echoing work done in the late 1950s when LSD was used on heroin addicts and alcoholics. Fighting fire with fire, coals to Newcastle, busman's holiday - aphorise as you will, but the next time someone stumbles up to you in the high street asking for "20p for a tab of LSD". remember - he could be on the right track.

Back in what is nothing like the real world, BBCI had yet another new sitcom to present us with. A Perfect State wore its comic origins proudly. Having been underwater at the time of the Domes-day Book, Flatby, a very low-lying fishing village on the East Coast, was never officially annexed to the United Kingdom and is therefore perfectly entitled to declare itself independent. And we are perfectly entitled to say "ooh, just like

Passport to Pimlico." But just like so many other things, too. Richard Hope plays the umpteenth Man from the

Ministry to be sent to quell rebellious natives (various St Trinian's films, Love on a Branch Line, Gobble - although I am reluctant to cite the latter as the comic origin of anything) and will no doubt become the umpteenth Man from the Ministry to turn native in due course. As for the enthusiastically anti-EU stance ("armies of little, chubby Hercule Poirots coming over here to tell us how to wipe the very bottoms we sit on), the series merely takes on where The Brittas Empire left off.

R egardless of its derivative nature, however, there is good news. A Perfect State is funny and, in particular, Michael Aitkens appears to have created the near-perfect part for the considerable talents of Gwen Taylor. She plays Laura: pub landlady, Deputy Mayor and driving force in Flatby. She is bossy, interfering and the sort of intimi-

dating flirt that makes even Ru-dolph Walker's Mayor quail. Naturally enough, she also gets the best lines. Never forget there is a real world out there, she told her daughter Julie, solicitor and the village's constitutional expert. where people are normal and civilised and don't all sleep with

their first cousins." As sixon starts go, this was definitely the right side of promising.

Finally, let us consider Shop Till You Drop (Channel 4), a series that promises to reveal all about supermarket culture in the 1900s. Nothing wrong with that, except that in the past 15 months BBC2 has covered exactly the same territory not just once but twice. Susan Tully can narrate away about blink rates, role distribution and why fruit and veg is a predominantly female selection zone, but as far I'm concerned it's a case of been there, done it, got the shopping trolley. Twice.

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A ...

BBC1 6.00em Business Breakfast (93409) 7.00 BBC Breakfast News (1) (98867) 9.00 Breeklast News Extra (T) (8335935) 9.20 Style Challenga (1065374) 9.45 Kilroy (6330138) 10.30 Can't Cook, Won't Cook (33857) 11.00 News (T) and weather (6909041)

11.05 The Really Useful Show (3973190) WALES: 11.05 Wales Labour Conference (42506082) 1 11.35 Change That (5891119) 12.00 News (T) (6918867)

12.05pm The Alphabet Game (5594935) 12.30 Going for a Song (7878770) 12.55 The Weather Show (34992916) 1.00 News (1) and weather (91954) 1.30 Regional News (98826799) 1.40 Neighbours (T) (20488190)

2.05 The Gift of Love (1993) with Andy Griffith and Bleir Brown. A man is given a heart transplant under conditions which destroy his family and is forced to find solace with a young runsway who gives him the will to live once more. Directed by Destroy Report 1924/46

Paul Bogart (2374454) 3.30 Playdays (1297480) 3.50 The Friday Zone (3851428) 4.55 Newsround Extra (f) (3635409) 5.10 Blue Peter (f) (1032190)

5.35 Neighbours (r) (T) (596003) 6.00 News (1) and weather (515) 6.30 Newsroom South East (867) 7.00 Big Breek Snooker stars Terry Crititins

Shotal Ali and Lee Richardson cue up for the shooker game show (1) (1428) 7.30 Top of the Pops (751) 6.00 Porridge Classic cornedy with Ronnie Berker (r) (1) (7848)

8.30 A Question of Sport Cyclist Chris Boardman, the captain of the Weish poardnan, the capital of the weest rugby union XV Jonathan Humphreys, high-jumper Steve Smith and Everton tootballer Gary Speed take part in the sports outs hosted by David Coleman, with team capitalins John Parrott and Ally McCoist (1) (9683)

9.00 News (I) and weather (8935)

9.30 (3) Silent Witness (1/2) When the body of a man is doneted to medical research, Sam uncovers evidence to suggest his death may no have been entirely natural. With Amenda Burton (T) (478393)

10.20 The Mrs Merton Show With quests Sache Distal Jeremy Clarkson (T) (177312) WALES: 10.20 The Celluloid World of Deamond 11.20 FILM: Midnight Run 1.15 FILM: The Legacy 2.55 News

10.55 Midnight Run (1985) Robert De Niro plays a bourty hunter who engages in a bettle of wits with crooked accountant Charles Gradin while struggling to bring him to justice. Directed by Martin Brest

12.50am The Legacy (1979) Americans Katherine Ross and Sem Elliott are forced to spend time in a sinister-looking English country house after crashing their car. Directed by Richard Marquand (522492) 2.30 Weather (3490178)

VideoPlus - and the Video PlusCodes The numbers next to each TV programme listing are Video PlusCode** numbers, which allow you to programme your video records instantly with a VideoPlus+" heridest. Tap in the Video PlusCode for the programme you wish to record. VideoPlus+("), Pluscode (") and Video Programmes are tradements of Germster Development Ltd. CHIEF AND

6.00em Open University: Two Research Styles (629393) 6.25 Looking at What Happens in Hospital (6218428) 6.50 Forecasting the Economy (5278374) 7.15 Sea Hear Breekfast News (6355480) 7.30 Captain Cavernan and the Tean Angels (1261374) 7.56 The Really Wild Show (7865119) 8.20 Just So Stories (7227732) 8.35 The Record (9764751) 9.00 Daylime on Two: The French

Experience (8342225) 9.15 The Biology Collection (467461) 9.45 Watch (3611935) 10.00 Children's BBC: Playdays (50119) 10.30 Hotch Potch House (4994751) 10.50 Cosmo and Dibs in Punjabi and English (2196935) 11.00 Look and Read (2985645) 11.20 Short Circuit (578587) 11.40 English Time: (1263845) 12.00 English File (1565) 12.30pm Working Lunch (42003) 1.00 Scene (99596) 1.30 Le Club (98808393) 1.45 Words and Pictures (988083948) 2.00 Just So Stories (67667026)

2.10 Sport on Friday Helen Rollason introduces action from the downhill akling event in Nagano, Japan. Plus a preview of the weekend's five nations' championship matches (228393)

3.55 News (T) regional news (2319954) 4.00 Today's the Day (490) 4.30 Ready. Steady, Cook (664) 5.00 Eather (9206) 5.30 Going, Going, Gone (916) 6.00 Star Trek (1) (T) (355480)

6.50 Electric Circus. The latest entertainment news with Dannii Minogue (106683) 7.00 Pole to Pole The second leg of Michael Palin's epic journey takes him to Russia (1) (1) (397886)

7.50 A Week to Remember (b/w) (315206) 8.00 Birding with Bill Oddle Bill Oddle takes his binoculars to the Scottish Highlands, hoping to catch sight of some of Britain's rarest birds -- ospreys, capercallie and the golden eagle (T) (8190)



Alan Titchmarsh in the Med (8.30pm)

8.30 Gardeners' World Alan Titchmarsh strolls around the colourful terraces of the Mediterranean (T) (7225) 9.00 Red Dwarf Lister is impregnated with a virus which has the power to kill him (T) (8577)

9,30 The Two Fat Ladles Comedy Cook-in Clarissa Dickson Wright and Jennifer Paterson host 8BC2's Comedy Zone (1)

10.00 Comedy Zone The Two Fat Ladies present classic hilanty as they choose their all-time favourite British sitcom (T) (16190)

10.30 Newsnight (T) (841645) 11.15 Space: Ahove and Beyond (819206) 12.00 Stuff the White Rabbit (93807) 12.30mm The Face (1958, b/w) Bleak drama, with Max von Sydow and Ingrid Thulin. Directed by Ingmar Bergman. In Swedish with English subtitles. (859159)

2:10-2:15 Weather (8624807)

CHOICE

Red Dwarf

BBC2, 9.00pm After last week's fun with Pride and Prejudice, the sci-fi spoof offers a relatively orthodox episode, though in this show nothing is conventional for long. The plot is sparked by the discovery of a three-million-year-old woman, preserved in a block of ice and still alive, Followers of the recent Horizon region of the recent species and still alive. and still aims, rollowers of the recent Horizon series on frozen corpses may smell a parody, though the writers Paul Alexander and Doug Naylor would probably deny it. Suffice to know that the toe woman impregnates Craig Charles's Lister with an intelligent virus and desperate measures have to be taken to rid him of it. As usual the level of invention is high and the one-liners a delight. "This place is harder to get into than an airline chicken Kiev," complains Lister, as he tries to enter a wrecked starship.

Catherine Cookson's The Moth TTV. 9.00pm

Lots of nasty people live in Cookson country, and awful things happen, but somehow there is always a warm glow of goodness to make the tales bearable. Which is perhaps make the tales bearable. Which is perhaps why they are read, and viewed, by such large audiences. The previous adaptation, The Wingless Bird, pulled in 12 million viewers and there is no good reason why The Moth, the almost archetypal Cookson story, should not do as well. Jack Davenport is the hero, Robert, a carpenter who leaves the Jarrow shinward to work for his uncle. It is 1913. shipyard to work for his uncle. It is 1913, which is why Jarrow still has a shipyard. Which is why Jarrow still has a shipyard. Uncle turns out to be a Bible-bashing lyrant, who accuses Robert of getting his cousin pregnant. Forced into another move, Robert heads for a crumbling estate and a fateful encounter with two sisters. One is played by a promising newcomer, Justine Waddell, the other by the very talented Juliet Aubrey.

Silent Witness: Cease Upon the Midnight BBC1, 9.30pm

When an Aids sufferer dies on the night of his 40th birthday, Amanda Burton's steety Dr Ryan smells a rat. And so should we, for a series with a forensic pathologist as its central character can hardly waste its time with deaths by natural causes. It has to be murder, or at the very least an assisted suicide. Get the body on the slab, let the camera linger on it and leave Dr Ryan to do her gristy best. This two-part story is by a Casualty writer, Jacqueline Holborough, and maintains the dour standard of a series are arted for its rhoft of humour. Or a series not noted for its shafts of humour. Dr Ryan's private life contains little more joy. For one thing there is the burden of a dony sister (Ruth McCabe), while the best she can do for a spot of romance is that old flame from many years ago, the utterly charmless Detective Superintendent Ross (Mick Ford).

The Mrs Merton Show BBC], 10.20pm (Scotland and Wales, 10.50pm; N.J., 11.05pm)

There is the danger that when a chat show spoof loses its bite, it becomes just another chat show. Caroline Aherne's Mrs Merton may not be there yet, but she is getting close. Perhaps she needs guests who are more easily insulted. Or perhaps the novelty of the easily insulted. Or perhaps the novelty of the host dressing up as a dowdy Lancashire housewife so that she can ask insulting questions is wearing off. Mrs Merson may be quick with the quips, which are often sharp and funny, but unless the guests rise to them the show is entirely lacking in substance. Sacha Distel and Jeremy Clarkson are the enfa-forder and ten minutes after the closing credits have rolled you cannot remember ring either of them said. Aherne would no doubt retort that this is precisely the point. The show is a vehicle for her character and Peter Waymark the rest is incidental.

6.00mm GMTV (1979003) 9.25 Win, Lose or Draw (1073393) 9.55 Regional News (T) (5068157) 10.00 The Time, the Place (47645) 10.30 This Morning (T) (33301916) 12,20pm Regional News (1) (6907751) 12,30 News (T) and weather (7870138)

12.55 Wish You Were Here? (r) (T) (7888157) 1.25 Home and Away (T) (15501480) 1.50 Murder, She Wrote (4421003) 2.50 Get a Life! (5309664)

3.20 News (1) (4955729) 3.25 Regional News (1) (9800670) 3.30 Roste and Jim (7016954) 3.40 Sim Pig (9707916) 3.50 Sugs Burny (9736428) 4.00 Zzzapl (1092208) 4.15 Jumanji (9385393) 4.40 Gladiators. Train 2 Win

(1) (3811683) 5.10 A Country Practice (7359393) 5.40 News (T) and weather (779409) 6.00 Home and Away (r) (T) (513206) 6.25 HTV Weather (422515) 6,30 HTV News (T) (935)

7,00 Wheel of Fortune hosted by comedian Bradley Walsh (T) (6595)
7.30 Coronation Street Fraser catches Liz rifling through his private papers. Judy prepares to say a final tarewell to her Mum (T) (119)

8.00 The Bill: Rolling In It A City trader biames his unemployed brother-in-law when drugs are found in his Lamborghini (1) (2915)

8.30 Holding the Buby War breaks out between Gordon and his smug neigh-hours over whose child is more gifted. bours over whose child is more giff With Nick Hencock (T) (4751)



Juliet Aubrey as Sarah (9.00pm)

9.00 Cartherine Cookson's The Moth (1/3) with Jack
Devenport, Juliet Aubrey and Cavis Bradley (T) (9995) 10.00 News (T) and weather (10916)

10.30 HTV News and weather (232003) 10.40 in Country (1989) with Bruce Willis, Emily Lloyd and Joan Allen, Based on the acclaimed novel by Bobble Ann Mason about a recent high-school graduate who lives in Kentucky with her uncle, a

traumatised Vietnam vet, teaturing a moving climax at the Vietnam memorial in Washington DC. She becomes curious about the war that killed her lather, but has difficulty is stopping the past destroying the present. Directed by Norman Jewison (34392225)

12,50am Funky Bunker (5395178) 1.50 Club Nation (3997772)

2.50 Shift (4042081) 3.50 Collins and Maconle's Movie Club (r) (13487807)

4.20 The Big Metch Replayed (r) (6116389) 5.00 Coronation Street (r) (1) (21265)

As HTV West except: 12.55pm-1.25 A Country Practice (7888157) 1.50 Sevannah (4421003)

2.50-3.20 Our House (5309664) 5.10-5.40 Shortland Street (7359393) 6,25-7.00 Central News (888393) 10.40 Central Weekend Live (71328119) 12.15am Weekly World News (39028) 1.00 Funky Bunker (5762888) 1.55 Baywatch (5602197)

3.40 Dating the Enemy (9068245) WESTCOUNTRY

As HTV West except 12.55-1.26 Emmerdele (7888157)

2.45 Cyber Cate (5535081)

As HTV West except:

3.10 Movie Club (65069994)

1.50 High Road (20493022) 5.10-5.40 Home and Away (7359393) 6.00-7.00 Westcountry News (54848) 10.40 Film: Cocoon: The Return (34392225) MERIDIAN

12.55-1.25 A Country Practice (7888157)

1.55 Sevennah (4439022) 2.50-3,20 Serve You Right (5309664) 5.10-5.40 Home and Away (7359393) 6,00-7.00 Meridian Tonight (54848) 10.40 Film: Cocoon: The Return (34392225)

ANGLIA

As HTV West except: 12.55-1.25 A Country Practice (7888157) 1.55 Savenneh (4439022) 2.50-3.20 Dogs with Dunbar (5309664) 5.10 Shortland Street (7359393) 6.25-7.00 Anglia News (888393)

10.40 Film: Cocoon: The Return (34392225) Starts: 6.00am Sesame Street (86119) 7.00 The Sig Breakfast (81577)

9.00 Revitched (20393) 12.00 Collectors' Lot (40157) 12,30pm Here's One I Made Earlier (77799)

1.00 Slot Meithrin (84664) 1.30 Australia Wild (69770)

2.00 Cynhadledd y Blaid Lafur (4206) 4.00 Fifteen-to-One (848) 4.30 Shop Till You Drop (732)

5.00 5 Pump (4374)

5.30 Countdown (312) 6.00 Newyddion (137935)

6.05 Heno (524312) 6,35 Jacpot (406577) 7.00 Pobol y Cwm (634583)

7.25 Y Sice Gelf (983732) 8.00 Penciacwydd: Mai - Mehefin (3886) 8,30 Newyddion (2393) 9,00 Exotics and Erotics of the Deep (1515)

10.00 Brookside (41886) 10.30 Here's Johnny (120664) 11.05 The Girlie Show (529515) 11.35 TFI Friday (466848) 12.40mm Robin (9149604)

12.45 Flave (91081) 1.15 Film: The Burgiar (968807) 2.55 Film: Nightfall (3699401) 4.20 Film: The Mob (1662178)

ENDER STREET 6,00mm Sesame Street (86119) 7.00 The Big Breaklast (81577) 9.00 Bewitched (r) (1)

(20393) 9.30 Schools (272393) 12.00 (20393) 9.30 Schools (272393) 12.00 (3000m (r) (1) (40157) 12.30pm Here's One i Made Earlier (r) (77799) 1.00 Cyloill (r) (1) (24116683) 1.25 Australia Wild

1.55 Cerry on Admirel (1957) Farce with David Tominson as a periamentary private secretary and Brian Reace as a naval officer who switch places. Directed by Val Guest (1) (18386645)

3.30 Travelling Light (1) (111) 4.00 Fitteen-to-One (1) (848) 4.30 Countdown (1) (732) 5.00 Rickl Lake (1) (4374) 5.30 et Rescue (T) (312)

6.00 TFI Friday With music from Kula Shaker and Beck, The guests Include Ben Etion and Della Smith (45190)

7,00 Channel 4 News (T) (450521) 7,55 The Press Photographer of the Year Which pictures make the from page and why (318393)

8.00 Bloom: The Mint Family (5/5) The diverse world of mint (T) (3885) 8.30 Brookside Bel makes a serious accusation against Oille (T) (2393)



Les Thompson is Caroline (9.00cm)

9.00 Caroline in the City: Caroline and the Watch Caroline and Richard bicker over their shared workspace (T) (1645)

9.30 Spin City: The High and Mighty Michael needs a levour from a terned New York developer. With Michael J Fox 10.00 Roseanne The Connors find themselves

out of their element when they accept an invitation from Astric Wentworth to her luxury home (T) (41886) 10.30 Here's Johnny Johnny Vaughan pre-sents a mix of chat, comedy and social

studies. The guests include Mex Clifford (120664)

11.05 The Girlie Show (8/12) with Patsy Palmer and Samentha Fox (629515) 11.35 TFI Friday (r) (486848)

12.40am Robin (9149604) 12.45 Flava (3/8) (91081)

1.15 The Burgler (1957) Taut film nor with Dan Duryes, Jayne Mansheld and Peter Capell. A thief plans to steal a valuable necklace with the help of his gang and his half-sister, but a corrupt policeman also has designs on the loot. Directed by Paul Wendkos (T) (968807)

2.55 Nighttelii (1956) Stylish thriller starring Aldo Rey, Brian Kelth and Anne Bancroft. A man wrongly accused of murder goes on the run, but the real killers catch up with him. Directed by Jacques Tourneur (T) (3899401)

4.20 The Mob (1951, b/w) Thriller with Broderick Crawford. A policeman poses as a corrupt dock worker in order to expose the Mob's underworld activities Directed by Robert Parrish (204913)

Springer Uncarl (3700461) 11.00 The Young and the Readess (5827636) 11.50 The New Mr and Mrs Show (2537041) 12.25pm Why Mr? Real Life Case Studies (54566267)

Me? Real Life Case Studies (54566867) 12.55 Tempesil (1795936) 1.40 Rolonda (9266022) 2.30 The Agony Expenence (4043480) 3.00 Live at Three (64327480)

4.05 The Jerry Springer Show (9031585) 5.05 Lingo (65880577) 5.30 Lucky Ladders (4054596) 6.50 / Dream of Jeanne (4054596) 8.35 Ready, Steady, Cook (1433732) 7.05 Infetuetion UK (1500399)

(1950/36) 7.86 PRENDENDY UK (1950/389) 7.40 Who's Sony Now? (291975)) 8.05 Rolonda (4885312) 9.00 Filbit: Necessity (8977732) 11.00-12.00 Sex Uie Down Under (8391503)

• For more comprehensive listings of satellite and cable channels, see the Directory,

published on Saturday SKY 1 8.00em Morrang Glory (\$16515) 9.00 Regis and Kathe Lee (\$6480) 10.00 Another World (48885) 11.00 Caye of Our Laws (28022) 12.00 Oprah Winfrey (11670) 1.00pm Gerado (\$7190) 2.00 Selly Jessy Ruphael (\$4190) 3.00 Jenny Jones (\$4816) 4.00 Oprah Winfrey (\$9521) 5.00 Star Trek-The Neet Generation (5645) 8.00 Real TV (1935) 6.30 Manned — with Children (\$515) (1935) 6.30 Manned — wen Chindren (2017) 7,00 The Simpsona (6374 7.30 M*A*S*H (1799) 8.00 JAG (28003) 9.00 Walter, Texas Ranger (48967) 10,00 High Incident (4954) 11,00 Star Trek, The Need Genera-tion (48515) 12,00 LAPD (33449) 12,30 mm Lucy Show (15410) 1,00 Hz Mix (15410)

SKY 2 7,00pm Beverly Hills, 90210 (5209428) 8,00 Melrosa Place (5286948) 9,00 Pacific Drive (5296312) 10,00 Tales from the Cryst (5249554) 10,30 Tales from the Cryst (523574) 11,00 Late Stown (5587589) 9,00 Hill Mills (over 1000 Hissor)

SKY NEWS Worldwide news coverage, with building on the hour, 24 hours a day, seven days a week. SKY MOVIES

(1984) (87586) 8.00 Hercules (1983) (71570) 10.00 MecShayner Final Red of the Dice (1983) (82571) 12.00 Lost to Vocilents (1983) (82593) 2.00pm The Deeff's Brigade (1985) (85562-651) 4.15 Going Under (1989) (7800-641) 5.00 Cnly You (1994) (43770) 8.00 Decaded by Trust (1995) (55515) 10.00 Top Dog (1984) (357312) 11.35 Cleris (1994) (3060) 11.00m Med Dogs and Englishment (1995) (89488) 2.45 Beteries (1995)

THE MOVIE CHANNEL 5.40es: When Wille Comes Marching Home (1950) (2458577) 8.05 Three Little Ninjas and the Lost Treasure (1990) (7510225) 10.00 Alexander's Regilize Band (1938) (91333) 12.00 The Roots of (75102225) 10.00 Alex (1958) (50506732) 2.10pm Ro-Undertaking (1995) (585190) 4.00

Three Little Ninjus and the Lost Ton-sure (1990) (819) 8.00 Thambelline (1990) (7178) 7.30 LW Top 10 (4409) 2.00 Fates (1995) (53157) 70.00 Indict-used (1995) (7031374) 12.15em The Prophocy (1994) (517539) 1.55 States of Prophecy (1994) (517596) 1.55 State of Basergency (1994) (517596) 2.25 Not Life Se (1995) (517536)

SKY MOVIES GOLD 6.00pm Road to Hong Kong (1982) 69753749 6.00 Sanolsey and the Bendit M (1993) 6997139 10.00 The Krays (1985) (44744645) 12.05am Hetrificam (1985) (44744645) 12.53 Only Asgale Neve Wings (1993) (44744645) 2.55-6.00 The Contican Brothers (1941) (44744645) CARTOON NETWORK/TNT

Continuous canoons from Bean to Spite, then THT firms as follows: \$4.00pm The Witserf of Oz (1938) (26394554) 11.00 The Dirty Dezien (1967) (27454654) 1.40ero Village of the Desired (1980) 87455480) 3.05-5.00 The Trollections Terror (1958) (87455480) THE DISNEY CHANNEL

THE DISNEY CHANNEL

Sky Movine Gold Inline over at 10pm.
4.00pm Mouse Tracks (973/200) 6.25

Cueck Astack (974/2011 6.50 Borless
(3191656) 7.48 Little Mermed (3590139)

7.40 Alacidin (1204-25) 8.05 Duck Prof.
(7420799) 8.20 Timon and Purtices
(6774005) 8.40 Care Beers (465984) 8.10

Grounding Messh (649804) 8.48 Big

George (4380461) 8.55 Lamb Chop

(4424866) 10.25 Muppert Sebbes (6258428)

40.50 Dumbo's Cross (3234765) 11.29

Mouse Tracks (5609139) 11.50 Under the

Umbrells Trie (444034) 11.20 Under the

Umbrells Trie (445034) 11.50 Under the

1.45 Alacidin (67655770) 2.15 Darkwing

Duck (77789816) 2.35 Soniers (1897119)

3.00 Cuack Atrack (945002) 3.25 Timon

and Pumbas (2304480) 3.25 Good Troop

(1516157) 4.00 Timon and Pumbas

(7509316) 4.10 Good Troop (2328119) 4.35

Borless (9735461) 5.00 Alacidin (6262471)

5.26 Timon and Pumbas (644374) 5.35

Darloss (Duck (97393) 6.00 Sky Tracken

Darloss (1818 117136) Bonkars (#135461) 5.00 Alacon (busers) 5.26 Timon and Pursbara (\$644374) 5.35 Darloten) Duck (497393) 6.00 Sky Tracken (9236 6.30 FLB): Tailong Liberty (10136) 8.00 FBJB: Robin of Lockstey (28157) 8.30-10.00 Golden Gits (49577)

FOX KIDS NETWORK 6.00am Three Little Ghosts (7133577) 8.20

Pozza Cats (5558848) 7.30 Power Rangula (5560683) 8.00 Masked Ridus (5245138) [56083) 8.00 Mested Rids (5245138) 8.30 Crossdor (524403) 9.00 Nershed Rids (5245138) 8.30 Crossdor (524403) 9.00 Nershed Rids (5245139) 9.30 Zoobilee Zoo (1524509) 9.45 Why Why Family (526451) 140.20 Nershe's istend (463611) 140.25 Why Why Family (7726577) 140.90 Zoobilee Zoo (2115409) 10.55 Why Why Family (16275534) 11.00 Princess Saria (737460) 11.30 Princess Saria (5517138) 1.00 Princess Saria (5517138) 1.00 Princess (5367138) 1.0 Three Little Ghost; (5738138) 2.30 Inspector Gedget (2825041) 3.06 Semani Pizza Cats (5717545) 3.30 Ace Ventrale (583766) 4.00 Cesper (3816393) 4.30 Power Rangers (3812577) 5.00 Meshed Rate (5712190) 5.20 Spicemen (3825157) 5.00 Geosshumps (3826770) 6.30-7.00 Sweet Valley (19th (3817022)

SKY SPORTS 1 7.00ms Sports Centre (78041) 7.30 Beach Volleybul (97732) 8.30 Racing News (85003) 9.00 Sports Centre (89683) 9.30 Aerobias Cz Style (92845) 1.00 Golf. Dubu Classic — Live (936974) 1.00 Golf. Dubu Classic — Live (936974) 1.00 July Lines (90916) 2.30 Sportsh Football (98974) 4.30 Trasthion (71429) 5.29 Sports Centre (8897770) 5.30 Nebbusiers (9866) 5.00 Sports Centre (28080) 7.00 Trast World Sport (88667) 8.00 Hold tim Buch. Page (97515) 9.00-5.30 mm Cricket One Day — Live (7070157)

SKY SPORTS 2 8.00pm Rugby Club (1045495) 9.00 Power Week (1033915) 18.00 Wretding (1035003) 11.00 - Rugby Club (9207521) 12.00-1.00mm Hold the Back Page (9207521) SKY SPORTS 3 12.00 Chcket South Alaca v Australia 12.00 Cndsqt South Alleds v Australia — Live (8150505) 3.00psis Beech Volleybud (66433403) 3.30 World Sport (71810140) 4.00 Golf: Nissan Open (66457225) 6.00 Golf: Dubar Classur (54474954) 9.00 Golf: Nissan Open — Live [98386022] 11.00-12.00 Sports Centre (28232308)

7:30mm Cross-Country Stating: Finlandia Histor (224/28) 8:30 Stating: Women's World Clip Downfall (555/7) 9:30 Nords: Saling World Champointary 9:30 Nords: Saling Skilling: Women's World Cup Downfall



Martin and Gary Kemp in The Krays (Sky Movies Gold, 10.00pm)

(\$6770) 12.00 Freeslyle String World Cup (\$2044) 1.00pm Territis. Millen Indico. (\$160022) 5.00 Sto Spesal (\$515) 6.00 Norder Scring (\$80031 7.30 Territis Millan Indicar Tournement — Live (40022)-9.80 Equestrarism (43208) 10.30 Bodrig: Brib-by Harris v Jett Wooden (46732) 11.30-12.30em IndyCar (77157)

6.00mm Krypton Factor (4725698) 6.30 Tickle on the Turn (80418312) 6.45 Magic Ball (41253190) 7.00 Alexats (7623374) 7.15 Tickle on the Turn (4884138) 7.30 pie (3674119) \$.00 Class Camerate (3574119) 4.00 Castalt Common Sueer (2372935) 4.30 Families (2371205) 9.00 The Professionals (B42)205) 10.00 Gumblements (3365305) 10.30 Caston Walt (2387701) 11.90 Within These Webs (3863967) 12.00 Caston Carronton Stees (2375022) 12.30 pm. Families (1715175) 1.00 Abion Market (367902) 1.20 Kypton Factor (2765616) 2.00 A Pate of Casto (3565695) 3.80 Upstars, Downsters (2777295) 4.00 Documents of Caston Caston Caston Caston Caston Caston (2775020) 4.30 Casto Upsaint, Communic (27122) 400 Doc-tor Series: In Charge 2 (88726) 430 Grumbtreeds (8861312) 6.00 The Profes-sonets (866890) 6.00 Classic Coronation Street (885877) 6.00 Plantes (867157) 7.00 Doctor Sense: In Charge 2 (8550022) 7.38 Cuckeo Waltz (6862041) 8.00 Upstams, Downstains (1657664) 9.00 Classes Contraston Street (5360680) 9.35 Good Life Guide (4771138) 10.00-11.00 The Profes-GRANADA GOOD LIFE

From 8.00ams-9.00 TV High Street From 9.00-12.00 Food and Wine From 12.00-3.00pm Health and Beauty rom 3.00-6.00 Home and Garden THE HISTORY CHANNEL 4.00pm Biography: Avt Gardner (3484683) 6.00 History Alee (4230596) 6.00 Cur Certury (3965157) 7.00-8.00 Biography Devid and Golath (1037732)

1.00mm The Trabight Zone (5168408) 1.30 Tales, of the Unexpected (5168409) 2.00 100 Years of Homor (5168409) 2.00 Rod Switter's Nicht Callety (5168409) 2.00-4.00 TLC/DISCOVERY 9,00em The Joy of Painting (2901896) 9.30 Cardeners' Dwry (6351521) 10,00 Surprise

THE SCI-FI CHANNEL

Chels. (7735883) 10.30 Our House (2690770) 11.00 Perrisol House (7692003) 11.30 This Old House (7692003) 11.30 This Old House (7693732) 12.00 Versatis Vegelables (2691022) 12.30pm Graham Kerr (2256157) 1.30 Home Again 9696999 2.00 Homestme (550426) 2.30 Furniture to Go (2415138) 3.30 Two's Country (5516041) 3.30-4.00 This Old House 2410683) House (2410583) DISCOVERY takes over at 4.00pm.

4.00pm Fishing Adventures II (2499190) 4.30 Bush Tucker Man (2495374) 5,00 Connections 2 (5528986) 5.30 Bayond 2000 (2419954) 6.00 Wild Things (3301206) 7.00 Beyond 2000 (5509022) 7.30 Wonders of Weather (2:495003), 8.00 Junessica h (9824989) 9.00 Junes Pilos (624729) 10.00 Battle for the Skies (1374206) 11.00 Best of Brash (1234022) 12.00 Codebreshers (1234022) 1.00ma Poet-shore (1234022) 1.30-2.00 World of Adven-tures (1234022)

UK GOLD

7.00mm Tellystact (7571138) 7.28 Neighbours (3145623) 8.00 Crossroods (9271588) 8.28 Earlinders (132062) 9.00 The 83 (2870916) 8.30 Bread (927398) 10.00 Neier the Twent (737041) 10.30 The Sulvers (9609428) 11.00 The Rockford Files (1255515) 12.00 Crossroods (2633480) 12.30gm Neighbours (8456175) 1.00 Earlinders (8674312) 1.35 The Two Farmies (8768577) 2.30 For the Love oil Ada (2412643) 8.00 Coldmaster (5525799) 2.30 The 84 (2412041) 4.00 At Creamies Creat and Small (7518041) 8.00 Bob's Full House (5955138) 5.40 Crossroods (6669461) 8.08 EastEnders (26502525) 8.40 Generation Game (6132041) 7.50 Are You Being Screed? (6615645) 8.30 Rues Abod (5505958) 8.00 The 81 (7844259) 9.30 The Creat (9077022) 10.35 Best of Top of the Prop. (9807461) 11.30 Pt.Jak Piner of Adack (7744770) 12.55stap FILMs Queet for Love (6811517) 2.30 Shopping (2626513) TCC

8.00mm Hallway Across the Galasy and Turn Lett (21729) 5.30 Ociaen Odyssey (42751) 7.00 Escape from Jupier (80409) 7.30 Flach Gordon (69916) 8.30 Barman (3588) 8.30 Dennis the Menach (34157) 8.00 Earthorn Jim (24409) 9.20 Bobby's World (61799) 10.00 Remaild the Reindon

(94995) 12.30pm Ari Alteck. (66315) 1.00 Ann of Green Gables. (53770) 2.00 Ocean Objessy (9695) 2.30 Escape from Jupiter (4480) 3.00 Botmen (8395) 3.30 Finsh Gordon (6225) 4.00 Earthworn Jun (5722) 4.30-5.00 Dormis the Menace (1915) NICKELODEON

ROCKEL-ODE-ON

8.00ms Attack, of the Kaller Tormstons (90848) 8.30 Court Duckus (25225) 7.00 Rocke's Modern Life (8537789) 7.15 Hey Amadri (7004481) 7.30 Rugrats (55190) 8.00 Coug (64374) 8.30 Artur (53845) 9.00 Children's BBC (2725) 9.30 Children's BBC (2735) 10.00 Winzoe's House (35577) 10.30 Babre (83409) 11.00 Magaz School Bus (85515) 11.30 Herry's Callytt Once Cheral-Lozae & Library/Topony and Tim/Jambo (36916) 12.00 Benarias in Pyarias (67401) 12.30 Benarias in Pyarias (94403) 1.00 Children's BBC (7554) 1.30 Children's BBC (7574) 2.30 Wishbone (7409) 3.30 Stockin' Around (8857) 4.00 Bruno the Not (7374) 4.30 Rugrass (6866) 5.00 Stockin' Around (8857) 4.00 Bruno the Not (7374) 4.30 Rugrass (6866) 5.00 Stockin' Around (7575) 6.30-7.00 Doug (8003) Peress Gang (7751) 6.30-7.00 Doug (8003)

PARAMOUNT COMEDY 7.80pm Entertainment UK (2190) 7.30 Roseame (7515) 8.00 Roseame (8138) 8.30 Monly Python's Flying Circus (7845) 8.00 Cheers (48751) 9.30 Tabi (14867) 10.00 Garry Shandang (88190) 10.30 Fission (84138) 11.00 Colors and Mecone's Mone Club (50596) 11.30 Monly Python's Phyng Circus (25461) 12.00 Tab Circus (62975) 12.30em Soap (56826) 1.00 Cheers (15642) 1.30 Jun (26731) 2.00

Cheers (12642) 1.30 Teo (28791) 2.00 Entertainment UK (64178) 2.30 Collins and come's Movie Club (76913) 3.00 Fras (99438) **3.30-4.00** Geny Shanding (67265) BRAVO

8.00pm Robocop (9829931) 9.00 The New Twilight Zone (7809393) 9.30 The New Twight Zone (4751747) 10.00 Tour at Duty (1279652) 11.00 FILM: Bloodstained 11-10 FILIR BIOOddsined Shadow (4384205) 1.00am Robocop (4364205) 2.00 Tour of Dufy (4394205) 3.00 PLAE Bioodstained Shadow (4394205) 8.00 The New Twilight Zone (4364206) 5.30 The New Twilight Zone (4364206) 5.30 The New Twilight Zone (4364206) The New Twilight Zone (4364306)

UK LIVING Gordon Ethot: Show (8077848) 10.05 Juny

CHALLENGE TV 5.00pm Prize Time (6647461) \$.05 Blook-busters (1935438) 5.35 Prize Time (592312) 5.50 Spellbound (405312) 6.30 Prize Time (436729) 6.30 Catchphrase (395022) 6.56 Prize Time (921596) 7.05 Sale of the Century (439190) 7.30 Prize Time (944867) 7.40 Gres Us a Cluz (240993) 8,10 Prize Time (196664) 8.20 All Clued Up (382003) 1800-01 (1800-01) 222 AI CHUD UP (35200-01) 6,50 Prizo Time (108664) 9,00 Timough the Aughote (656866) 9,25 Prize Time (403160) 9,25 Busmaris Holday (541515) 10,00 Prize Time (102799) 10,05 Timesarie Hund (411652) 11,05 Prize Time (567670) 11,20 [41 look] 11.09 rice line [cs/67/0] 11.29 Love at Frist Sight [858180] 11.45 Prize Time (921770) 12.00 Sale of the Century (17449) 12.30sm Hart to Hart (79536) 1.30 Lou Grart [94081] 2.30 Showy River — the NcGregor Saga (57623) 3.30 All Together Now (36979) 4.00-5.00 Fall Guy (11246)

ZEE TV 9.30 Yeardon Ke Rang 10.00 Ten Bru Chup Meri Bra Chup 10.30 Kerkesnah 11.00 Zelke Ka Satar 11.30 Hasretan 12.00 4,00 Kamal kombination 4,30 Saarip Seed 6,00 Zee Zone 5,30 Young Buzz 6,00 Kya Scare Hei 6,30 ZEE and You 7,00 BBCO 7,30 Aanas 8,00 News 8,30 Parampara 9,05-12,00 FILMs Kheddar

VH-1

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ATHLETICS 40

Father and son thrown together by common pursuit

CRICKET 41

Australia ready to stay on top of world



Pearce given managerial support

Bassett leaves Palace to help Forest revival

miership survival. He has, in

effect, been brought in to buy

move yesterday, Bassett hint-

ed strongly that he will assume a wider role when

Pearce's temporary contract expires: "Stuart will still select

the team and conduct the

coaching until the end of the

season, because he has a

contract until then and he

wants to do that. I won't step

"He is happy for me to come in and I wouldn't have done so

if he wasn't. We've known

each other for some time.

although not very well. He knows he needs somebody

surprise not only for its speed and nature, but because he

Manchester City only recent-

ly. At the time, he said that he

Palace exciting: four months

ound the future of Crystal

doing my best to help."

on his toes.

When he discussed the

IT IS a week for pulling managerial rabbits out of hats. Following hard on the heels of Blackburn Rovers' surprise appointment of Roy Hodgson came the even more tal Palace to become the general manager of Notting-ham Forest.

The speed of the appoint-ment is an indication that Irving Scholar, the former man, who is part of a consortium that purchased Forest this week, immediately recognised the need for an experi-enced head to help to steer Stuart Pearce, the player-manager, through the murky wa-Carling Premiership.

Scholar confirmed last night that Basser will not initially be involved a seam affairs. leaving the way clear for Pearce to continue in his present role until the end of pires in the summer. The former Wimbledon and Sheffield United manager is hardly the type to be content with an administrative position and is likely to assume full control, with Pearce perhaps



victory at Amateur Cup lines against Slough Town. 1974: Joined Wimbledon, who were then

1974: Joined Wimbledon, who were then in the Southern League.

1977: Made 35 appearances during first season as Football League club. 1981-86: Succeeded Derio Gradii as manager and took Wimbledon from old third division into the first.

1988: Became manager of Watbrid, but left shortly afterwards to take over at Sheffeld United. United nelegated to third division.

1995: Resigned as United menager. 1996: Appointed as manager of Crystal

in the club promised £16

million to spend immediately Bassett's wife and children on new players and it is still live in Sheffield and the Pearce's lack of experience and knowledge in this area that prompted the move for move to Nottingham will allow him to spend more time at home. Palace wanted Bassett on transfer matters and be clause in his contract. charged with finding the players to ensure the club's Pre-

clause inserted that said I could leave if a club came in offering compensation and correct decision for me in terms of my career, financially

Ray Houghton, the Ireland midfield player, is the favourite to become player-coach at assuming, once again, the position of general manager. Coppell returned to the club for his third spell after resigning as manager of Manchester City earlier this season, citing health reasons. He is expected to play a mainly administrative role at the club.

Bassett has signed a three contract and Scholar hopes his experience, especially in the transfer market, will continue the improvement that Pearce began when he took temporary charge from Frank Clark, who resigned as manager in January. Bassett can at least work from a position of strength, not simply because he has £16 million

The prospect of playing for Forest, despite their struggles strong as ever, if the attitude of Pierre van Hooijdonk is anything to go by. Rob Jansen, the Celtic and Holland striker's agent, said yesterday that Van Hooijdonk was eager to move

to the City Ground. "Celtic were ready to sell



Olazabal plays his second shot to the 1st in his encouraging comeback round of 69 yesterday. Photograph: David Cannon/Allsport

Olazabal quick to get back in the swing

GOLF CORRESPONDENT IN DUBAI

IT WAS just after midday on another day of clear blue skies and bright sunshine when José Maria Olazábal made his way to the 1st tee at the Emirates Golf Club, in Dubai, yesterday to compete in his first competitive round of golf

As Sergio Gomez, his manager, and Maite, his wife, walked behind, Gomez pulled a cigar from the pocket of his shirt and plucked at the paper encircling it. "This is really an occasion," the man who has supported Olazábal, the 1994 Masters champion, through good times and bad, said. Once the first drive is away, I

Olazábal's 69, four strokes behind Domingo Hospital and Colin Montgomerie, the defending champion, who are the first-round leaders of the Dubai Desert Classic. To play as well as Olazábal did lies equal fourteenth after what he has been through is most encouraging for his future and for that of

European golf. It was an afternoon of low scoring. Montgomerie, Bernhard Langer and Padraig Harrington were collectively 19 under par, with 19 birdies and one eagle between them. For Olazábal, a level-par 72 would have been a decent score and Montgomerie was loud in his praise. "For him to break 70 on a good golf course is tremendous," Montgomerie

Further indication of what Olazábal achieved can be gauged from the comments of Greg Norman, who went round in 71 and described himself as "happy, it being my first competitive round for

First-round scores ...

From the top of his head to the tips of his shoes, Olazábal was recognisably the Olazábal of old, except that he wore a peaked cap that looked one size too big. His walk has always appeared slightly drunken in the way he sways from side to side, and he has always leant forward as if

That remained the same. When he, Jamie Spence and Barry Lane had to wait to play their second shots to the 10th, Olazabal took the opportunity to sit on the end of his bag.

His striking appears to have lost little of its sharpness. holes, he demonstrated the skills for which he was famous before suspected rheumatoid arthritis in his right foot and a back injury caused him to stop playing competitively in Sep-tember 1995.

A wild drive on the 3rd ended in a bush. Olazabal dropped out under penalty and hacked back to the fairway. He was still 180 yards away but his six-iron was struck with such accuracy that

it clanged into the pin. He

180 yards than his partners did from 20.

Fog delayed the start for 75 minutes and, as Olazábal was behind a group containing Langer, progress was slow. 31 earlier this month, might have begun to fade because of tiredness, he played better.

He birdied three of his last four holes, sinking putts of 30 feet on the 15th. 18 feet on the loth and playing the last hole conservatively and skilfully. As darkness gathered, he hit a wedge from 90 yards to three feet for his fourth birdie of a momentous day.

He would not reveal whether his feet were hurting at the end. Suffice to say that, for the moment, Olazábal has to take his recovery one step at a time.



him recently and have discusthird division. 1999-90: Won promotion back to the second division, then to first. 1994: United relegated from Premier League on final day of season. 1995: Boonand of Linds sions with some clubs in England," Jansen said, "If that situation is still the same, then it would be a possibility that he would come to Forest. He would like to stay in Great shall light this Havana." TIMESTWO

Premier League looks to Leaver

By BRIAN GLANVILLE

THE new chief executive of the FA Premier League is to be a barrister. Peter Leaver QC. who will assume his duties on April 3. Rick Parry, the present incumbent, will be working alongside him for a suitable period". Parry said yesterday that, by the time Leaver takes office, the socalled "bungs inquiry" and report into financial malpractices by football clubs in the transfer market, will be done

between Parry and his succes-



sor could scarcely be greater. Parry, the provincial accountant: Leaver, the metropolitan Leaver, 52, has been sup-

porting Tottenham Hotspur since his father took him to a game against Blackburn Rovers in 1950. He has been chairman of the Bar Committee, chairman of the International Practice Committee. Recorder of the Crown Court and a Deputy High Court Tottenham director between

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1982 and 1984, during the interregnum that followed the contentious chairmanship of Irving Scholar. Most encouraging of all, perhaps, Leaver gives up his Sunday mornings to referee minor football, though he says he finds it hard to keep up with the play. Sir John Quinton, the FA

Premier League chairman, said yesterday that Leaver has been engaged on the basis of a rolling contract, though he would not divulge the salary. Quinton heaped praise on Parry, who, in his five years of office. has kept harmony among the 20 FA Carling Premiership clubs, but who now has agreed to take a job nearer his home, at Anfield with Liverpool PC.

Leaver would not commit himself to any plan or project. He said he first wanted to take up his position and assess situations, though he is anxious to keep things on an even

This may not be easy. There is the problem of the Bosman decision and the presumption that football contracts are in restraint of trade. Not mentioned was the urging of Uefa. the European governing body, that all senior leagues, including the Premiership, be cut down to 18 clubs. There is also the issue of the dreadful plight of many smaller clubs and the distortion to the fixture list

created by television. "Obviously." Leaver said.
"you see things which you
think should be changed. It
would be hidicrous if you didn't. My experience at the Bar has taught me not to try to come to firm conclusions until I know precisely what all the

Ashton handed brief by Ireland

BY DAVID HANDS, RUGBY CORRESPONDENT

the fortunes of Brian Ashton culminated yesterday in an pointment as coach to Ireland. Two months ago, Ashton was in dispute with Bath and subsequently resigned after three successful years as coach to the English champions; now he has security of tenure until 2003, the period covering the next two World Cups. Sporting security, of course,

is subject to success on the field, but Ashton, 50 and a history teacher up to last July, could not have asked for more than appeared in the Irish Rugby Football Union's (IRFU) statement made in Dublin before Ireland left for tomorrow's five nations' championship meeting with

Ashton himself has expressed doubts whether lieland's standing can be improved without this kind of long-term commitment, which will involve working with provincial directors of rugby and advising on the A and under-21 teams.

We have tremendous faith in Brian's ability and commitment and recognise that we are at a critical juncture in our efforts to maintain Ireland at the top level," Eddie Coleman. the chairman of the IRFU elections committee, said.

Ashton, who will take up his new role on April 1, will go on the development tour of New Zealand and Western Samoa in May and will be part of a three-man selection committee along with Pat Whelan, the honorary manager up to the 1999 World Cup, and a third selector yet to be named. The reduction of the selectors from

THE remarkable transition in five to three is in line with what most other leading unions have already done.

Political warfare in English rugby seems imminent yet again. Agreement between the Rugby Football Union (RFU) and the leading clubs may be one thing; agreement within the RFU itself remains quite another and some heavy guns have been rolled out in advance of the special general meeting, called in Birm-ingham by the Union for March 9.

Every club affiliated to the RFU has been circulated with a letter signed by Fran Cotton, the manager of the British Isles, Danie Seriontein, the RFU president in 1992-93, and Jeff Probyn, a national

Rob Andrew _ True professional

member of the RFU committee. The letter is designed to ensure that the chairman of the union's new management board - the equivalent to Cliff Brittle, the present chairman of the executive committee - is elected by the membership and not from within the committee, and that the post of chief executive should be subject to a rigorous selection

Richard Hill, the Saracens flanker, will be in the England team to play France at Twickenham tomorrow. Although Hill is not yet at 100 per cent fitness, he did enough in a private training session to convince the team management that his injured ankle will allow him to take the field.





12 Myth_winged horse (7)

15 Melody: exert severely (6)

19 Got down (eg to pray) (5)

14 US/Canada 4 ac (7)

17 Possessor (5)

11 An explosive: a Plot (9) 12 Fold, tuck (in garment) (5)

13 Touch of colour (5) 16 Get too big, old for (4.3,2)

18 Synagogue cupboard; place of shelter (3) 20 Ourstar (3)

21 Lifeless (9) 22 Performer of operations (7)

The solution to 1028 will be published Wednesday. March 5